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OCTOBER 1959

VOICE OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

COLUMBUS
November 11 - 13

ATLANTA
October 21 - 23

SAN JOSE
October 7 - 9

SUNDAY SCHOOL NUMBER

- The Sunday School In Today's World
- A Moment To Remember

See story on page 8.

OFFICIAL NAE ORGAN

B

". . . if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?"

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NAE
on the move

▪ ORGANIZATIONALLY speaking, the big thing for NAE this month will be the fall board and staff meetings to be held October 5-8 in Indianapolis. Board and staff members will form a special delegation to the opening service of the Billy Graham Crusade in the city on October 6. Recognition will be given to DR. HERBERT S. MEKEEL, NAE's president.

Pray for these important board and staff meetings that the projected plans may be in the will of God.

▪ THE MIDWEST REGION's annual convention and banquet will be held October 23 at the Judson Baptist church, Oak Park, near Chicago. Director CHARLES ANDERSON reports that there will be a midwest premiere showing of the NAE film, "The Bridge," and that DR. CLYDE TAYLOR, secretary of public affairs, will be the banquet speaker.

In addition to the report session at 3 p.m., REV. ARTHUR ZAHNISER, chairman of the Social Action Commission, will conduct a social action seminar.

▪ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GEORGE L. FORD, who is just returning from an overseas trip, will be the main speaker at a one-day church extension conference to be held October 18 at the United Missionary church in Waharusa, Indiana.

▪ IN ADDITION TO the engagement listed above, DR. TAYLOR will be in three missionary conventions during the month. The first will be October 4 at Colonial Hills Baptist church, Atlanta, Ga., to be followed on October 8-11 by the annual missionary convention of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. These sessions will be held in the Gospel Tabernacle in New York.

On October 17 he will be at the World Gospel Mission annual convention at Canton, Ohio, and on the 18th will be at the Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends at Damascus, Ohio.

The week of October 24-31, Dr. Taylor and REV. MAHLON MACY, NAE's field director, will team up for a series of conferences in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma.

▪ PRIOR TO THIS series of conferences. MR. MACY will be in Kansas City for the Kansas state Sunday school convention and a meeting of the Central Regional Board on October 1-2. On October 11 he will be speaking at the Payne Avenue Baptist church, St. Paul Minnesota.

Action

Official Publication of the National Association of Evangelicals

VOL. 18, NO. 8

READERS' GUIDE FOR OCTOBER 1959

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ART CONSULTANT / Ransom D. Marvin
CIRCULATION / Esther Ford

NAE STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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capital commentary...by don gill

report on religious trends from NAE's office of public affairs, washington, d. c.

. . . . . .

As the 86th Congress adjourned its first session, several bills on matters of concern or interest to evangelicals were left pending:

The bill to take alcohol off the airlines was reported to the full Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House, but got no further. This bill was handled as a straight safety issue. By the time Congress reconvenes, the Federal Aviation Agency will have had a chance to try out its proposed regulation which limits drinks to those served by the airline. The regulation, as proposed, would also prohibit the airline from serving a passenger who is under the influence of alcohol. Such a regulation would not impinge on the airlines' economic interests, as would the complete elimination by legislation.

A bill to assist the Postmaster General in excluding obscene matter from the mail was passed by the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate Post Office Committee. The bill would extend the impounding period from 20 to 45 days, in order to allow time for the necessary legal procedures by the Post Office Department. The Senate Committee will have this bill still pending when it returns in January.

Two different bills passed the Senate and House to set penalties for the distribution of obscene materials in the District of Columbia. Such action has been long overdue in the Nation's Capital, but it will have to wait until the next session to get the differences in the two bills ironed out. The House version, which was more comprehensive, expanded criminal penalties for publishing or storing obscene literature, showing lascivious motion pictures or recording lewd music.

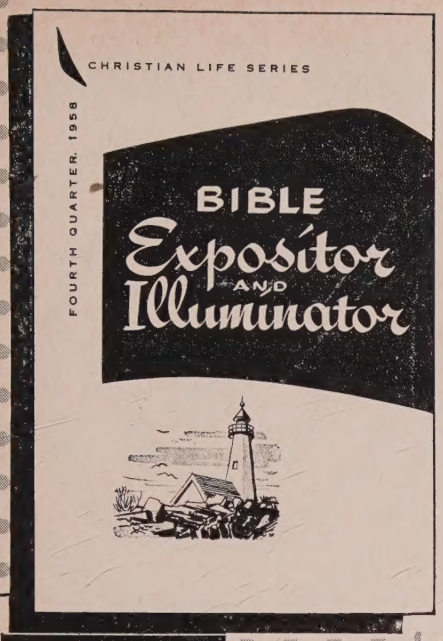
Before Congress adjourned the House passed a bill to reduce the Cabaret Tax from 20% to 10%. It is now pending before the Senate Finance Committee. Passage by the Senate would open the way for more night clubs throughout the country. Numerous concerned citizens have maintained that this should be the last tax to be reduced.

By a vote of 368 to 2 the House of Representatives passed a resolution opposing the seating of Communist China in the United Nations. The action of the Fifth World Order Study Conference of the National Council of Churches, which favored seating Red China, was included in the House debate which preceded passage of the resolution. However, those opposing the resolution could muster only two votes.

Ordination or licensing is a necessary prerequisite of any minister who is to exempt "the rental value of a parsonage" for income tax purposes. So ruled the Internal Revenue Service recently in the cases of two church employees -- one a "minister of education" and the other a "minister of music." IRS maintained that the activities and functions of such men did not establish their ministerial standing.

"Peace education" was the subject of an interview which President Eisenhower gave leaders of the National Council of Churches at the White House recently. The discussion was related to a nationwide study which is being carried on by the Council's Department of International Affairs.

The House Un-American Activities Committee has pointed out that Communist lobbying is being stepped up in Washington. Among registered lobbyists are three identified Communists and one Communist-front organization. The Committee recommends that such connections should be declared under oath when such lobbyists register at the Capitol.



H. H. Savage, D. D., Pastor
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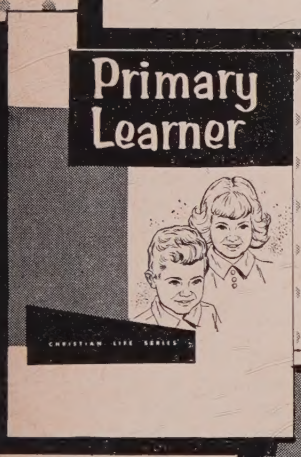
Jack Hyles, Pastor
Miller Road Baptist Church
Garland, Texas

Author: How to Boost Your Church Attendance



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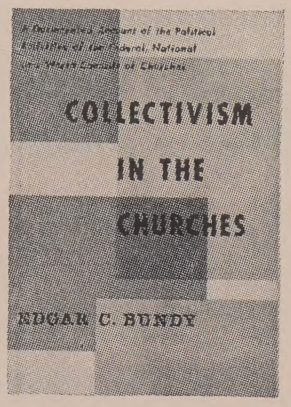

COLLECTIVISM IN THE CHURCHES

by

EDGAR C. BUNDY

"Without hesitancy, Dr. Bundy calls names of Council leaders whom he charges with Communist propaganda. The book contains a great deal of documentation to support the charges."

Dr. J. M. Crowe,
SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD,
The Southern Baptist Convention

"If the 'liberal' theologians continue on their present track they will soon (earn) the distinction of being the group most responsible for delivering America into the hands of the enemy. COLLECTIVISM IN THE CHURCHES will show you how far they have already gone."

Edwin McDowell,
American Opinion

"I make the challenging statement that to a shocking extent our churches are being used to further the Communist purpose . . . And for detailed confirmation with documented evidence of this fact I refer you to a 354-page book, COLLECTIVISM IN THE CHURCHES by Edgar C. Bundy, Wheaton, Ill."

Otto Garr Tague,
Cincinnati Enquirer

"Major Bundy has done brave service in attacking the New Pharisees, the New Sadducees, of the entrenched ecclesiastical hierarchy. His strong documented, devastating book should hasten the day of Lucifer's defeat and God's victory."

E. Merrill Root in *National Review*

"In this most provocative work the spotlight is focused upon the left wing collectivistic, socialistic ecclesiasts which seemingly dominate in many ways the National Council of Churches . . . Mr. Bundy has an outstanding background which has prepared and qualified him for setting forth these significant facts."

Dr. Albert J. Lindsey, Pastor
First Presbyterian Church, Tacoma, Washington

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Mrs. Ray L. Erb, *National Defense Chairman*
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Dr. Daniel A. Poling, EDITOR,
Christian Herald

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people in *Action*

■ INTRODUCING IN THIS column, the people behind the stories you'll read in this issue of *Action*:

Last month JOHN NOBLE made his appearance as *Action's* newest columnist. After nine years in Russian prisons, Mr. Noble gained great insight into the Communist mind and strategy. As a born-again Christian, he will answer your questions about communism from a Christian viewpoint. Write him in care of this magazine.

WAYNE CHRISTIANSON, who introduces this Sunday school issue on page 7, is the editor of *Moody Monthly*. The article is supplied through the courtesy of the National Sunday School Association who sponsors "Sunday School Week" September 27-October 4.

Practically ever since NSSA has been sponsoring national conventions, VERDA BLOOMHUFF, *Action's* office editor, has been writing the stories about the convention cities and the program. Her story on three cities on pages 8 and 9 will give you valuable background information.

Another NAE staffer, but new to the pages of this magazine, is MAHLON L. Macy. In connection with "NAE Week" to be observed October 18-25, Mr. Macy, who is field director, shows in a practical way what evangelicals have done, are doing, and can do.

In "The Sunday School in Today's World," CLATE RISLEY says, "It may not be necessary to discuss the importance of the Sunday school to a magazine audience such as this one." We might add that it is hardly necessary to introduce Dr. Risley to this audience either, but if you want to know more about him, read "Meet Dr. Sunday School" on page 12.

D. K. REISINGER, who wrote the "pen portrait" of Dr. Risley, is president of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association in Wheaton, Ill.

"The Decline of Good Reading" by DR. A. W. TOZER first appeared as an editorial in the *Alliance Witness* of which he is the editor and richly deserves this reprint which we are giving it in observance of October as Protestant Press Month.

The world literature scene is surveyed briefly in "Needed: Ammunition for Our Front Line Troops" by LARRY WARD. Mr. Ward, who is director of informational services for World Vision and executive secretary of the Evangelical Press Association, makes his third appearance in *Action* this year.

THERE IS HOPE FOR OUR Aimless sunday schools

By WAYNE CHRISTIANSON

IMAGINE yourself this fall a stranger in a strange town with school about to begin. Comes the first week of September and you leave your youngsters at the neat, brick school two blocks away and drive away with no misgivings.

But your peace of mind soon fades when you learn that the new school is not quite all you thought. You express your fears to a neighbor.

"Oh, folks here don't take school too seriously," he tells you. "Sure, kids have to go to school," he adds, "but who worries about homework and grades? They'll learn enough. And kids here always get promoted!"

This word of comfort keeps you awake all night. By morning you've made up your mind. You're going to visit school.

There, unfortunately. you find that what your neighbor said is true. No one but you seems worried about how much your youngsters learn. Yes, there are textbooks—for classroom use. Aside from these, the teachers' aims seem vague indeed. No one seems to know whether Jerry is up to par in reading or whether Janet should bear down on her multiplication tables. Exams? Report cards? No one bothers about them in this school.

Could a situation like this really exist? Probably not in our land of supervised public education. But something very much like it is actually taking place year after year in the majority of our Sunday schools.

Take a careful look at what goes on in your own Sunday school next Sunday and unless it is one of the relatively few exceptions you will be forced to one conclusion. The Sunday school is doing a wonderful work—but doing it in an utterly aimless way.

There is no question but that the Sunday school is moulding lives, largely because it has enlisted faithful, praying Christians in the task of gathering individuals of all ages and exposing them to the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. Some are being saved, many are being guided, and all are being encouraged to live the Christian life. All this is fine, but it should not blind us to the fact that in doing this wonderful work the average Sunday school is content to jog along with a lack of purpose and vigor which we could not tolerate for a moment in our public schools.

Most churches frankly look to their Sunday school to shoulder the load of teaching among their memberships. But the average Sunday school is uncertain about what is an adequate curriculum, is largely indifferent as to whether or not the individual "pupil" learns or stagnates, and promotes its members regardless of whether or not any real learning has been accomplished.

These facts are so well known that it is hardly necessary to document them. By and large, the problem of providing a curriculum which will give the Sunday school pupil step-by-step teaching in the Bible has been surrendered to the publishers of lesson quarterlies. This in some respects is a step forward since the quarterly makers are giving careful attention to this problem. Usually it means, however, that a change in publisher involves a change of curriculum affecting every person in the Sunday school.

It is a small wonder that the typical "pupil" does not take the Sunday school's teaching efforts very seriously. He does not expect to master what he is covering or build on his knowledge from month to month—*and he is seldom disappointed.* He may receive a devotional thought now and then along the way and even some spiritual applications. These are valuable, but they should not hide the fact that the Sunday school is in need of a more clear-cut curiculum, that it needs to face the task of teaching the Word of God as a whole and that it should challenge individual interest and effort in a way that it does not now do.

In view of this situation it should be no surprise that those trained in Sunday schools are not well taught. For example, there was the survey taken a few years ago among 281 incoming college students, two-thirds of whom said they had regularly attended Sunday school.

Of this group, 79 per cent did not know the name of the tax collector who became a disciple, 74 per cent could not even name the father of Joseph and his brethren, and 70 per cent did not know in which book of the Bible to look for the Ten Commandments. Hard as it is to believe, 65 per cent failed to identify "the famous wise man of the Old Testament!"

Some may argue that the Sunday school cannot expect to carry out a purposeful teaching program. One hour or even an hour and a half is too short a time. The handicap of using volunteer workers is too great. And the necessity for depending on interest to prompt voluntary attendance and lesson preparation all put the Sunday school at too great a disadvantage.

These are very real difficulties, certainly, but no one of them is insurmountable. This is being proved by Sunday schools which are operating successfully with respect to these problems.

(Continued on page 19)

By VERDA BLOOMHUFF . . .

NSSA's Thrilling Triplets

Three Great National Conventions Make 1959 A Highly Significant Sunday School Year

TRIPLE National Sunday School Conventions will mark a new "first" this year in the history of the National Sunday School Association. Never before has NSSA attempted such a gigantic task! Some 10,000 to 15,000 Sunday school leaders are expected to receive instruction and inspiration at the three gatherings. A staff of 100 leaders will conduct the 110 conference sessions; the nation's most accomplished educators will direct the workshops and institutes, and speakers at major sessions will present educational and inspirational messages of inestimable importance to all Christian workers.

Twin conventions had been held previously—but never *triple conventions.* This year, because Sunday School interest across the nation has increased so tremendously, NSSA leaders felt impelled to bring the benefits of a great national convention to the "grassroots" in three strategic locations.

SAN JOSE

October 7 — 9

Scene of the first "triple convention" will be the famed Civic Auditorium in downtown San Jose, California. Within three and a half blocks of all the major hotels, it has a seating capacity of 3,300 and a new 1,000-car parking lot immediately adjacent. St. Clair and Montgomery Hotels will be the West Coast convention headquarters.

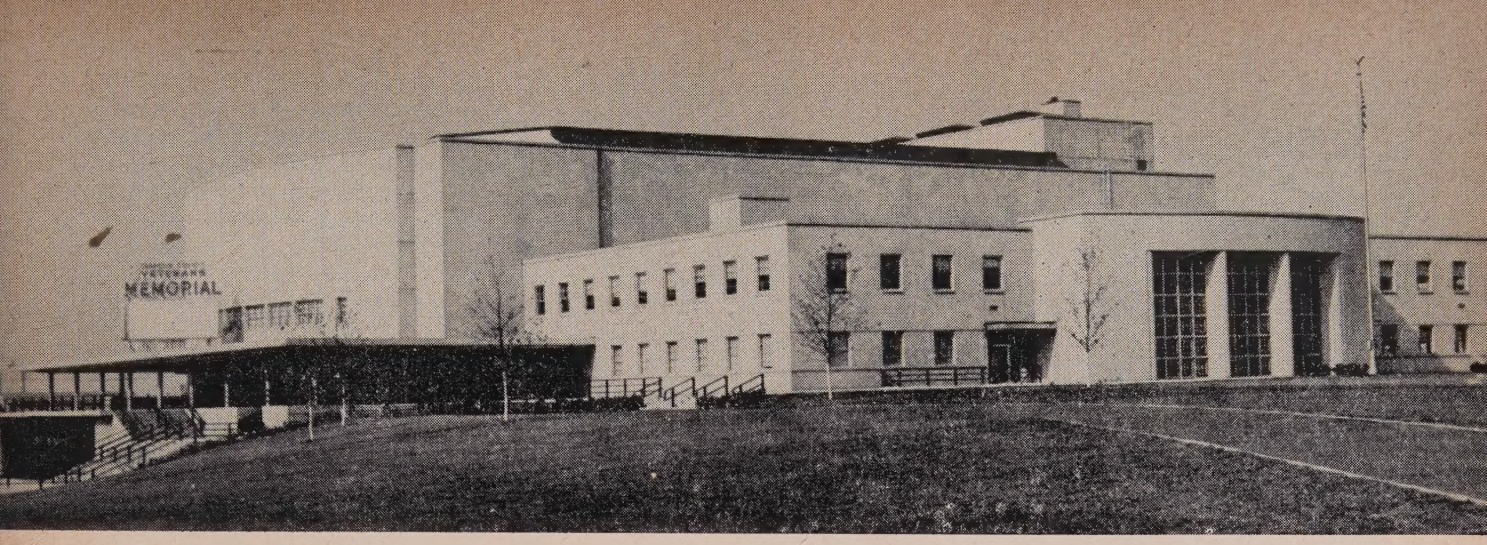
San Jose, the county seat of Santa Clara County, is in the heart of Santa Clara Valley, so called from the Mission established there in 1777. San Jose itself was founded in the same year under the authority of King Charles III of Spain and became the first civil settlement in California.

San Jose's famed Civic Auditorium, site of the first big Sunday school convention to be held October 7-9. A new 1,000-car parking lot is immediately adjacent.

The twentieth century has urbanized San Jose into a bustling metropolitan area of well over 604,000 people. Because of its location in the bountifully fertile "Valley of Heart's Delight," the city quite naturally grew up as a market and shipping center. Over forty canneries and dried fruit packing plants are located in the city which has come to be known as the "world's canning center." In the post-war period since 1944 more than 314 nationally known firms have selected this area as the location best suited to serve the growing market on the West Coast. The roster of Santa Clara County industries includes such firms as Ford Motor; General Electric Atomic Products, Lockheed Aircraft Missile System Division, International Paper, Westinghouse, Ferry-Morse Seed Company, Libby, Del Monte and Hunt Food Corporations—to name only a few.

Located at the southern end of San Francisco Bay—fifty miles from San Francisco and forty-two miles from Oakland—San Jose is easily accessible for all NSSA visitors, regardless of the section of the country from which they travel. Seventy passenger trains operate daily between San Jose and San Francisco; leading bus services have terminals in both cities, and San Jose's new municipal airport offers fourteen daily flights to and from the four points of the compass. Of special attraction to convention delegates are the beautiful parks—the largest known as "Little Yosemite" because of its many natural formations—and the pleasant climate. Redwood-forested summits on the west protect the Santa Clara Valley against costal winds and fogs; the high Mount Hamilton Range to the east acts as a barrier to the heat of interior California, and the waters of the San Francisco Bay temper the winter cold and summer heat.

"Sunny California" is exactly the right spot in which to store up warm memories—not only against the winter



Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, Columbus, Ohio scene of the final Sunday school convention, November 11-13.

rigors of less favorable climates but also of friendships formed and inspiration gained for teaching the Word of God to the Sunday school pupils "back home."

ATLANTA

October 21 — 23

Southern hospitality will be offered to NSSA delegates when the second of the triple conventions meets October 21-23 in Atlanta, Georgia. Sessions in Georgia's historic capital will be held in the Biltmore Hotel.

On the map of the United States one straight line drawn from New York to New Orleans and another from Chicago to Jacksonville will cross almost exactly at Atlanta. The natural crossroads of the entire Southeast, this capital city is the center of a spider web of railroads, a network of highways, and bus and air transport lines radiating in all directions, also the largest telegraphic center in the world and the largest long distance telephone center from the Chesapeake to the Rio Grande. Because of these advantageous features, the city is southeastern headquarters of practically every company engaged in nationwide business.

Historically, Atlanta had its beginnings as the southern terminus of the Western & Atlantic Railroad (still owned by the State of Georgia) and was first named "Terminus." It was along this railroad that General Sherman advanced with his invading army in the War Between the States, captured Atlanta, burned it to the ground, and cut to pieces and burned all railroads converging upon the city. From that point on, his march to the sea, terminating in Savannah, was unobstructed—and the death knell of the Confederacy was sounded.

Sherman's army was hardly out of sight when survivors of Atlanta's civilian population of 10,000 returned to the smouldering ruins of their city and commenced rebuilding. Within five years the population had leaped to 21,000 and today has pyramided to some 995,000 people in the metroplitan area. The real stride of the city's growth is believed to have commenced with the "Cotton Exposition" in 1881. One of its promoters was the illustrious Henry Grady whose editorials and speeches in the North did more perhaps than any other one influence to "extinguish the resentments" (as Lincoln put it) growing out of the War. In 1895 another exposition was held in the capital city, heralding the development of the textile industry in the Southeast.

Places of interest in and around Atlanta which should be on the visitor's itinerary include: The State Capitol with its museum and monuments; Stone Mountain which (even though some of its carvings are unfinished) is known as one of the wonders of the world; Wren's Nest, the home of Joel Chandler Harris ("Uncle Remus"), and the Cyclorama painting of the Battle of Atlanta in Grant Park where the battle was fought.

Atlanta—known as "The Convention City of Dixie"—is ready with its historic plaques, the beautiful autumn foliage of its surrounding countryside, and the "spoonbread" and other southern delicacies offered by its hostelries to extend the hand of Christian fellowship to Sunday school leaders from the North, East and West and to neighbors in the South. All will find a warm welcome at Hotel Biltmore.

COLUMBUS

November 11 — 13

One of the most modern buildings in the nearly century-and-a-half old capital city of Ohio is the Veterans Memorial Auditorium where the Sunday school hosts of the nation and several foreign countries will convene November 11-13. Easterners and Northerners especially, if they were unable to make the trip west to San Jose or south to Atlanta, will want to mark their calendars with a big red circle around "November 11-13." No Sunday school superintendent, teacher or other leader will want to pass up this third opportunity to be present at a National Sunday School Convention of the caliber for which the National Sunday School Association has become famous.

Columbus has the unique distinction of being a capital city which did not become the capital of the state; the capital became Columbus! When the youthful state of Ohio was seeking a centrally located site for its capital, it had many bidders—among them Franklinton, a lively trading center now a part of the capital's west side. The State Legislature on February 14, 1812 accepted the offer of a syndicate of land owners to build the capital on the east bank of the Scioto River directly opposite the existing settlement of Franklinton. The syndicate platted the village and cabins destined to become "Capital Square" and the name "Columbus" was adopted for the embryo capital, honoring America's discoverer.

At the end of the first year the inhabitants numbered 300. In 1816 legislators rode their horses into the town and held their first session in the new capitol situated on the present statehouse grounds. Sawmills, tanyards, flour mills and several small manufacturing concerns were started by this time, schools established and a market house built, and within a few years Columbus forged ahead of other cities in central Ohio. The stagecoach period, which received great impetus when the national highway reached Columbus in 1833, and the arrival of the first boat on the Columbus feeder of the Ohio and Erie Canal brought recognition to the capital city as a transportation center. The city became a military center during the Civil War and general expan-

(Continued on page 16)

. . . By MAHLON L. MACY

The Evangelical Alternative—

Do Exploits or Be Exploited

THE 28,000 CHURCHES affiliated with the National Association of Evangelicals are faced with the greatest challenge a group of churches has ever known.

The population is increasing at an unprecedented rate, opportunities for church extension are unlimited and the climate for evangelism is the most favorable in years. The question is, "Will the evangelical churches capitalize on the advantageous circumstances and do great exploits in the name of our God or will they, because of a party spirit, selfish desire, or lack of vision become pawns of the enemy to be exploited by him?"

The evangelical churches are admittedly a minority group in America. This could discourage the faint in heart and weak in spirit in the light of the world situation.

The early Christians did not face a godless communistic horde, but they did face a Roman empire that had as little concern for God. They did not cope with the diabolical power of a Roman Catholic hierarchy, but they did have to preach to the Greeks with their many gods and idols. They did not face a liberal, monopolistic council of churches, but they were constantly faced with the dead formalism of a Jewish Sanhedrin.

These early Christians faced their day with an uncompromising determination to win their generation to the risen Christ. They were not out to build a church, but to bring men to Christ. The church was a secondary consideration. They did not look at the obstacles, but at the task—a lost world needed to be saved!

What is the twentieth century answer to this twentieth century problem? It can be said at the outset that no one church or denomination is going to be able to accomplish the task alone. The tragedy is that all of the Bible-believing groups combined are still not evangelizing in proportion to the population increase.

Part of the answer to the problem can be found in greater cooperation among evangelical groups. The witness being given by the churches through the National Association of Evangelicals is evidence to the fact that evangelicals can do exploits and need not be exploited.

The united witness through the NAE during the past 17 years has had a decisive effect upon America's religious concepts. In the first place, the NAE has been a witness to the fact that the Bible is the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God. This positive stand for a changeless Word in a changing world has kept a great many people from falling into the pit of disbelief and has encouraged others to return to the "faith once delivered unto the saints." In a world that has lost its way, the evangelicals have put forth God's Word as the way to follow and the Book to live by. The evangelicals have witnessed to the fact that there is a oneness among Bible-believing, born-again Christians. This is borne out at a national convention prayer meeting or in a local evangelical fellowship when men of thirty or forty denominations lay aside denominational designations and find that the ones beside them are indeed brothers in Christ. Jesus' prayer "that they might be one" is fulfilled in this kind of fellowship.

There may have been a time when evangelicals found it difficult to work together, but the denominations fellowshipping in the NAE give evidence of a changing climate. This working together has resulted in the extension of the kingdom in many ways. For instance, the cooperating mission groups in the NAE decided to do their missionary purchasing through their own cooperative office. The result of this has been the saving of $1¼ million to these mission groups over the last ten years.

In the fourth place, the NAE has been a witness to the fact that a minority under God can do great exploits. This is no surprise to those who know the ways of the Lord; for the record is full of instances of how a small group doing God's will accomplished the seemingly impossible. The NAE serves approximately ten million evangelicals across America, but this is only a small part of the 180 million people who make up this country.

In spite of the small ratio, however, the Lord has seen fit to honor those who honor Him. For the past 15 years, NAE has had a positive witness before government through the Office of Public Affairs in Washington. Through this office the convictions and desires of evangelicals have been made known to the agencies of government. Because the representatives of NAE in Washington have endeavored to "practice what they preach," they have been respected and often looked to by government leaders in religious matters even beyond the area of evangelicals.

A concerted effort has been made to push evangelical broadcasters off the air. Here again a minority group, under God, was able to gain the attention and respect of the entire broadcasting industry. The National Religious Broadcasters, radio arm of the NAE, through a positive, aggressive stand has preserved the right of evangelicals to buy radio and television time to preach the gospel. This is a battle still being fought, but the Lord has given great victories up to the present time.

It has been amazing to see how the Lord has united evangelicals to bring about a revival of the Sunday school. The National Sunday School Association has been particularly used of God to awaken the evangelical churches of America to their opportunity and responsibility to reach the lost through the "longest arm of the church."

Heaven alone will reveal the value of evangelical cooperation in the field of missions. The Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, missionary division of NAE, has been serving over 50 member mission boards along with many other missionary organizations not directly affiliated. Through this united approach the miraculous has often been realized. Many missionaries are on the foreign field today because there was a united front on the part of evangelicals as they approached various governments for visas.

The record reveals that the lives of missionaries have been saved through quick and efficient evangelical action. a working together in the area of missions has brought about better trained missionaries, a more efficient mission operation, an enlarged literature program, and an increased missionary staff. Even greater exploits will be forthcoming as cooperation in their area continues with increasing strength.

It is significant and encouraging to see evangelical fellowships and prayer groups beginning throughout the coun-

try. The Spiritual Life Commission has been giving impetus to this phase of cooperation. NAE was born in the midst of a prayer meeting. The continued effective witness of NAE has been made possible because of prayer. The future of the evangelical movement depends on prayer. God be praised for the many evangelical prayer groups across the land! They shall do exploits for God.

Evangelicals for many years have realized that their children in many instances were being exploited in public and state schools. Many lost their faith because of false teaching. The answer to this problem could only be found in Christian day schools and colleges. It is truly amazing to see how God has often done the impossible in providing for these many schools that have developed under evangelical leadership. Instead of students being exploited by satanic philosophies, they are being prepared to go forth challenging and conquering the strongholds of sin.

The influence of united evangelical action has been felt in almost every area of church life and responsibility, including world relief, church extension, military and civilian chaplaincies, social and evangelical action, and others. Evangelicals have found that by joining hands in many areas of spiritual endeavor they can, with God's help, "do together that which they cannot do alone." They have found it possible through a united witness to protect our freedoms and preserve our opportunities in this land.

What the Lord has allowed the NAE to see and to do in the past 17 years is only the beginning of what evangelicals can accomplish. The victories of the past must not make us complacent about the future.

Theological liberalism, secularism, communism, materialism — these have all laid down the gauntlet. When it comes to the spiritual conflict which evangelicals face today, no battle is ever finally and ultimately won. That is, not until the all-victorious One climaxes the conflict with His second coming.

We must keep engaging the enemy or else we shall surely loose by default all we have gained. Evangelicals must stay alert. The national and regional offices consider it one of their prime responsibilities to serve as "listening posts" and to relay information to member denominations and churches when the need for action comes. Some of the victories cited above prove the effectiveness of this "relay" system. NAE's ministry is a vital one.

Along with the evangelical alternative, there are some evangelical imperatives. It is imperative that we maintain a God-given concern for all men. The basic reason for united action and cooperation is that men may be brought to Christ.

It is imperative that we maintain the right concept of our call. We are not called primarily to build a large church or swell the denominational membership. Jesus said He came to seek and to save that which was lost. We are to minister, not be ministered unto.

If we are to do exploits for Christ, it is imperative that we have a consecration that makes us completely dependent upon Christ. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 4:6b). If all nations hear the gospel of Christ, if America sees revival, if your community sees a spiritual awakening, it will come as a result of a complete Christian commitment and evangelical cooperation in many areas.

A beginning has been made. Now is the time to launch an all-out attack, under God, on the forces of Satan.

The alternative is that if we do not take the offensive and do exploits for God, we will be exploited. This is clearly seen in the history of the children of Israel. When they failed to possess the land and made alliances with their enemies, it was not long until they became slaves and servants.

Now is the time for evangelicals to be strong. Now is the time to act. Join hands with the others in the National Association of Evangelicals. Pray for the work of NAE and support this vital witness with your regular church and personal gifts.

National Day of Prayer – 1959

By the President of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, THIS CONTINENT was chosen by men and women of profound religious conviction, seeking a free land where they and their children might worship God and follow his commandments as they understood them; and

Whereas, our nation was conceived in the same faith and dedicated to the same purpose; and

Whereas, in this tradition by a joint resolution approved April 17, 1952, (66 Stat. 64) the Congress has provided that "the President shall set aside and proclaim a suitable day each year, other than a Sunday, as a National Day of Prayer, on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals":

NOW THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, do hereby set aside Wednesday, the seventh day of October, as a National Day of Prayer; and I call upon my fellow Americans to join in prayer on that day.

Let us give thanks for the bounty of Providence which has made possible the growth and promise of our land.

Let us give thanks for the heritage of free inquiry, sound industry, and boundless vision which have enabled us to advance the general welfare of our people to unprecedented heights.

Let us remember that our God is the God of all men, that only as all men are free can liberty be secure for any, and that only as all prosper can any be content in their good fortune.

Let us join in vigorous concern for those who now endure suffering of body, mind, or spirit, and let us seek to relieve their distress and to assist them in their way toward health, well being, and enlightenment.

Finally, let us rededicate ourselves and our nation to the highest loyalties which we know; and let us breathe deeply of the clean air of courage, preparing ourselves to meet the obligations of our day in trust, in gratitude, and in the supreme confidence of men who have accomplished much under God.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Americans to join in prayer on that day.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The Sunday

IN TODAY'S

MEET DR. SUNDAY SCHOOL

■ "EVERYBODY WHO BELIEVES that Sunday school ought to be, ought to be in Sunday school." This dynamic introduction is as familiar to Sunday school leaders as the missile firing countdown is to twentieth century scientists. Like the missile "zoom!" it always startles the observer.

Dr. Clate A. Risley "believes that Sunday school ought to be." Familiarly known as "Dr. Sunday School," he is the executive secretary —the driving force behind the headlines — of the National Sunday School Association.

His enthusiastic know-how enriches Sunday school work on all levels. His vision sees what can be accomplished when evangelical Sunday schools work together. His drive implements his vision. His carefully-selected, well-qualified staff shares the responsibilities of an ever-expanding nationwide organization.

Dr. Risley does a magnificent job. He gets big returns from every Sunday school dollar—a fact that makes good sense to the thousands of contributing Sunday schools and organizations.

Who is this Dr. Risley? What is his background? Has he always been a Sunday school man? How did he get that way? What does he predict for the Sunday school of tomorrow?

Clate A. Risley was born in Montana—a westerner. He was educated in Washington and California, serving as director of Christian education in San Diego and as a pastor in Spokane. Today he belongs to Sunday schools everywhere.

His Sunday school vision began when he was a director of Christian education. He says, "I observed that every church that was reaching people for Christ had a well-organized Sunday school and a pastor who was vitally interested in his Sunday school." This conviction was confirmed during his pastorate of Spokane's Hillyard Memorial Baptist Church.

Hillyard was like many other churches until Rev. Clate A. Risley became pastor. Clate Risley believed the Word of God, he knew theology, he could preach, but he was convinced that the first responsibility was to "reach" the people. To him, Sunday school was the best way to bring in the multitudes and teach them the Word of God.

Not everyone agreed with this proposition. But Dr. Risley insisted on reaching the man on the street. His plan included accepted procedures—visitation, busses, building programs, teacher training, community conferences, conventions.

It cost money—but it worked. In eight years Hillyard Sunday school increased 1400 per cent!

What about tomorrow's Sunday school? Dr. Risley says, "It must be bigger and better. It must have adequately trained officers and teachers. It must be related to the total church program. To accomplish this every evangelical educational institution must challenge and train pastors and Christian educators to believe in the total Christian education program of the church."

The Sunday school of the future must seek to reach the four out of five who do not attend Sunday school. It must be evangelical—true to the Word of God. Dr. Risley has plans to vitalize America's Sunday schools—the biggest business in the world.

The opportunities are tremendous, the resources unlimited. But Sunday school responsibility must match the need. "Everybody who believes that Sunday school ought to be, ought to be in Sunday school."

By D. K. REISINGER

IT MAY NOT be necessary to discuss the importance of the Sunday school to a magazine audience such as this one, for you believe it is important. But we have failed to impress the world with the importance of the Sunday school or impress them that we believe it is important.

Historically the Sunday school has had no equal since its beginning. This does not set the Sunday school above the church, for the Sunday school, rightly understood, is the church.

It is impossible to imagine what American culture would be like today if the Sunday school had not been such a vital part of it. The Sunday school from its beginning has had its ups and downs, and at times some have feared the Sunday school was on its way out.

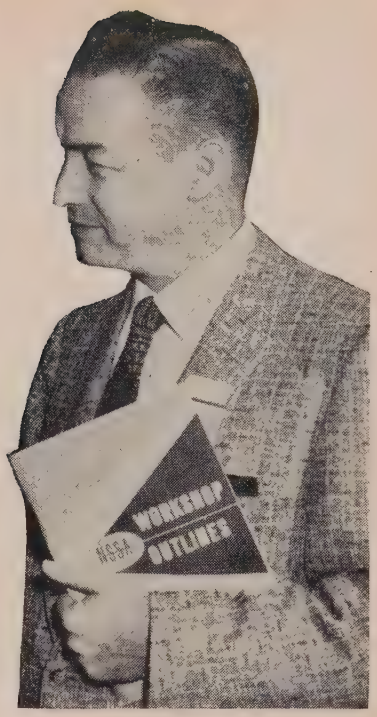
All too often teachers have been poorly trained or not trained at all, buildings have been inadequate, materials have been few and good equipment has been practically non-existent. Yet no institution has done so much for so many with so little. Eighty per cent of the churches in America were started as Sunday schools. How can we explain this?

Success has come because God has blessed His Word and His workers; it is the story of a living message in the hearts of teachers who have loved their pupils into a right relationship with God. There is no doubt that an even greater work might have been done had more Sunday school teachers known how to present the message of Christ more clearly.

The Sunday school is important as a teaching institution because of its numbers, its influences, and its text book. Over 40 million are enrolled in Sunday schools of America today. No Christian institution has a greater influence. What about Christian schools, colleges seminaries, and Bible institutes? How many students would we have in these schools today if we had not had the Sunday school. Ninety per cent of those training in Christian schools today were in the Sunday school.

School WORLD

By CLATE A. RISLEY



The text book of the Sunday school is the greatest text in the world: God's Holy Word, the Bible.

The Sunday school is important as a reaching agency. Every Sunday school worthy of the name must have some plan to reach the people around it with the gospel message.

The Sunday school is the church already organized for effective outreach. It is organized to invade any and every community for God. Any Sunday school that fails to make such an outreach overlooks one of its major objectives.

Three million Sunday school teachers are our real home missionaries and every church is a mission compound. Every city and town must be reached. In fact, every person in our nation could be contacted within one year if every Sunday school worker would call on one prospect a week.

But, you say, some of these three million are not really Christians. if we cut the number in half, every person in our nation could be contacted in two years. If we cut the number to one-third, every person in our nation could be contacted in three years, and if we could get one-third of the one-third who really know the Lord to work we could contact every person in our nation in ten years.

We did not do it in the last ten years and we will not do it in the next ten unless we have a personal loyalty to Jesus Christ that exceeds our loyalty to all else.

The Sunday school is important as a training post. The Sunday school must have leaders of all kinds: executives, department heads, secretaries, bookkeepers, accountants, engineers, bus drivers, librarians, musicians, and of course, instructors. The Sunday school is big business. All of these people must be chosen and trained for the task.

The accomplishment of outreach, evangelism, and instruction depend upon our training program. No part is more important than training because all the rest depends upon training. Yet in many of our Sunday schools this is the weakest spot. If we are to have better Sunday schools, we must have better teachers and workers. They cannot and will not be better unless they are trained to be.

The Sunday school is important to the church. As best we know, 85 per cent of the church membership comes from the Sunday school and an even higher percentage of our leadership. The Sunday school teaches and trains the membership of the church.

The pastor should be especially glad for the Sunday school, for the Sunday school helps to unify, organize, and centralize his work. The pastor is concerned with every individual of every age group. The Sunday school reaches every age. The pastor is concerned with the family. The Sunday school reaches every member of every family from the cradle roll to the rocking chair.

The Sunday school is important to the community spiritually, socially, culturally, and even economically. Those who seldom cross the threshhold of the church take strange pleasure in knowing there is one just around the corner.

The Sunday school is important to our nation. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." The Sunday schools of America have been a great blessing to our land. Today America needs the Sunday school as never before —not alone for ourselves, but to face our responsibility to the needy world.

The Sunday school is important to the world. As Christians we cannot fail to face up to our responsibility any longer. Things are happening at a terrific pace in our world today in every area of living. A few months ago I heard a speaker at a PTA meeting say, "The average youth of 17 has lived more, seen more, been exposed to more than most of our grandparents when they were seventy."

Think of your children and what they have seen, where they have traveled and compare it with what you had seen when you were their age. When I was the age of my boys I had hardly been off the farm. A trip to town was an event and I can remember running to the window to see an automobile go down the road.

We travel much of the summer and take our family along, but my boys would rather stay home any summer and all summer if I could stay with them. My oldest boy, 13, said to me this summer, "If we keep this up I won't have any place to go and see when I get married."

Someone has said the difference between our generation and our great-grandfather's is this: if our great-grandparents missed the stage coach they would say, "Oh well, there will be another one in a week or so." Today if we miss one turn in a revolving door we are frustrated and nervous all the rest of the day.

Things happen in the world at such a pace that many of us are left confused and bewildered. Then bewilderment turns to indifferentism.

It has affected our American way of life. It has affected our church life. When things happen so fast, we can't keep up. We do not understand. We become confused. We do not know which way to turn. We tend to give up and say, "What's the use."

There are other changes that are taking place in America besides those of scientific significance. American culture is fast changing. America was built on hard word. Pioneers in every area were willing to work hard to accomplish their aims.

A recent editorial in *Life* magazine

(Continued on page 15)

Evangelical Press Special

A Moment To Remember

THE TALL MAN with the glasses stepped forward. With tender care he placed the tiny baby he had been carying in the waiting arms of the woman before him.

For all the persons in this little drama, it was one of life's most important moments.

For the tall man, what he was doing represented the answer to years of prayer and planning, long months of busy work.

For the woman and her husband, here at last was the culmination of cherished prayers and dreams—a baby of their own.

For the little one, now cooing contentedly in the gently protective arms of mother love and all unaware of the significance of this moment, this meant the opportunity to grow up in a real home . . . a home where Christ is honored, where the Bible is read, where prayer is a natural thing.

And for evangelical Christians everywhere, this little event signified another great step forward in a field too often neglected in days gone by: the area of social concern.

The tall man was Dr. Walter Penner, executive director of the Evangelical Welfare Agency in Los Angeles, California, and director of the Southwest regional office of the National Association of Evangelical, which sponsors the welfare program as one of its service ministries.

The couple: a Christian couple from Los Angeles county, there identity withheld to prevent their being traced by the natural parents of the child.

And the baby: the first child to be placed by EWA since its licensing by the State of California.

For a period of at least three years previously, Dr. Penner had been sharing with evangelicals throughout the greater Los Angeles area his burden for the thousands of children born out of wedlock in just this one area alone each year. He had gathered a nucleus of interested persons, and then—in May, 1958 — his Southwest regional NAE office had officially launched the welfare agency.

The Evangelical Welfare Agency, as the new organization was called, continues under the sponsorship of NAE but has its own board of outstanding Christian doctors, dentists, attorneys, editors and other professional people as well as businessmen and pastors. Chairman of the board, for example, is Henry A. Pucek, a psychiatric social worker serving the State of California in its mental hygiene program. Vice-chairman is the Rev. Milford Sholund of the Gospel Light Publications in Glendale, Calif., who served as executive director of a similar agency in Chicago some years ago.

With Dr. Penner doubling as its executive director as well as NAE's busy head for the Southwest, EWA hired an outstanding casework director in the person of Adrin C. Sylling, a trained social worker, who for five years had been director of a Baptist children's home in Michigan and who for the past two years has served as president of the National Association of Christians in Social Work.

Additional personnel for vital office functions were secured . . . new quarters were secured in Whittier, California, to serve both NAE and EWA and to meet the exacting requirements of the state . . . long and busy months were spent in preparation of the application for state approval (California standards are very high) . . . promotion was launched to secure prayer support and then financial undergirding . . . and then came the double-barreled culmination: first, securing a state license and then placing the first baby.

Why is such an organization needed?

Dr. Penner is quick to point out the advantages: "A state-licensed agency protects the child, by making sure before he is placed in a home that he is legally free for placement, and by selecting a home suited for the child's personal needs. It also protects the natural parents, who are anonymous and thus safeguarded from future contacts and responsibilities in connection with their child. Further it protects the adoptive parents, whose identity is never known to the natural parents.

"And as a Christian agency," he adds, "EWA offers the additional benefit of a wholesome, loving Christian home environment for the child . . . an opportunity to grow up in a home marked by prayer and Bible reading and blessed by the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ."

So this was an historic moment.

Prayers were being answered.

And—who knows?—perhaps one of the prayers God had heard and graciously answered was that of a person missing from the scene: the unknown natural mother who, while unable to care for her own child, at least desired for the little one the home she herself could not provide.

An historic moment for the new Evangelical Welfare Agency of Los Angeles: Dr. Walter Penner, executive director (second from left), presents the first baby to be adopted through the agency to the adoptive parents, a Los Angeles County couple. With Dr. Penner is Adrin C. Sylling, casework director for the agency. As a necessary precaution to prevent their being traced, the parents are unidentified.

Photo by Paul Travis

Today's World

(Continued from page 13)

describes this age in which we live as the

age of the half done job
the great era of the goof-off
the age of plenty
the new leisure.

Excellence is a lonely virture. It is increasingly rare in our culture today.

From coast to coast within and without the church we witness a stampede away from responsibility. Americans no longer want to do what they are paid to do and they want more money for that kind of living.

"More pay—less work" has been the slogan of American labor for years. The counterpart of that in many a local church is "no pay, no work." Let the preacher do it, he gets paid. If he can't do it all, we will hire a director of Christian education, a church visitor, a music director, an organist. We have set up a professional class in the church to do our religious acts for us.

We have a growing number who have joined the PWA—Pew Warmer's Association. In many of our churches, ten per cent of the people are doing 90 per cent of the work. One of our greatest tasks is to get our people to work. We have a sad situation when we have many church members that sit and soak and sour.

Don't misunderstand. I am in favor of a paid staff. Begin by paying the pastor and pay what a pastor ought to get. The pastor is worthy of his hire, and our churches need a lot of education at this point. We have too often put into practice the deacon's prayer for the new pastor, "Lord, you keep him humble—we will keep him poor."

I believe we ought to have directors of Christian education, but we miss the point entirely if we hire them to do the work. We hire a staff to be able to guide and direct more people at work. If you directors of Christian education are not getting other people to work, you are not a director of anything.

Paul speaks to the church today when he says, "Awake thou that sleepeth, arise from the dead and Christ shall give thee light" (Eph. 5:14).

Do we want to awaken?
Do we want to arise?
Do we want the light?

I believe there are thousands who do. We have a job to do. We must face it honestly. In Christ we can do it. The world is saying to the church, "Don't just stand there, say something."

Christ has given us our marching orders: Go preach, teach all nations, make disciples. That is the task. What are we going to do about it?

In the early church the disciples did not have a Bible, they had no buildings, they had no literature, and they had no printing presses. They did, however, have a burning desire to reach their fellow men for Christ and with that burning desire they turned the world upside down.

If they did what they did without what we have, think what we could do with what we have if we had what they had.

It is more important than ever that we awaken, that we get our directions straight, that we determine our goals, that we get our feet on the ground and keep moving.

We must redeem the time. It is now or never!

There are approximately 40 million enrolled in the Sunday schools of America. I would like to challenge you as members and friends of the National Sunday School Association to take steps to reach another 40 million in the next ten years—to make our Sunday school enrolment 80 million!

That is really a mediocre goal. Can we do it? We can if we want to. Here is how we can do it.

Our basic problem is a spiritual one. It is easy for us to say that it is financial, leadership, or people, but basically it is spiritual. Three million Sunday school teachers could set the world on fire for God. We don't have three million, but we do have three thousand. What are the three thousand going to do? God says, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7:14).

Revival must take place in the heart of each of us. There is a price to be paid. It means our all must be laid on the altar of sacrifice. The next steps —a unity of spirit and a oneness of purpose — are simply by-products of spiritual revival.

No church alone—no Sunday school alone—is going to reach the unreached millions in America. Whatever inroads we make into these masses will be the result of our efforts together. Together we advance—divided we fall. Unity of spirit and oneness of purpose does not mean a supra-ecumenical church, but it does mean cooperation without compromise a New Testament principle.

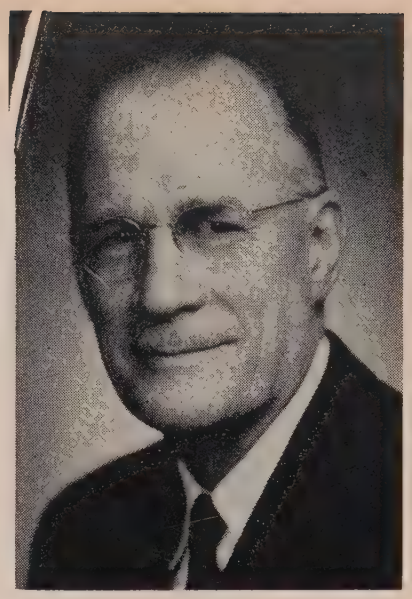
It does mean that those of us in places of leadership in churches and denominational publishing houses are going to have to examine anew our motives. What are we trying to do? Why are we trying to do it? I must confess that my own heart is disturbed with the commercialism, the spirit of competition that we sometimes find in

(Continued on page 22)

Action interview

WITH

BISHOP C. E. CARLSON, CHAIRMAN
GENERAL BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION
CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN
IN CHRIST
HUNTINGTON, INDIANA



Bishop Carlson, why is your denomination a member of and why does it support the National Association of Evangelicals?

"My denomination is one of the smaller evangelical groups. Working alone we found ourselves limited in our scope of activity and witness. Through membership in the National Association of Evangelicals there was opened to us avenues of service and fellowship far beyond anything we had believed possible. We are glad to be identified with and to support the National Association of Evangelicals."

We know that you encourage your local churches to support the work of NAE. Why do you feel they should?

"By supporting the work of National Association of Evangelicals, our local churches will be helping to undergird one of the greatest evangelical movements of our day. When we lay our Confession of Faith alongside the association's Statement of Faith, we find that the two declarations are practically identical. We are one in our aims and purposes for the salvation of men.

Carl Lindgren will be conducting a workshop on "Making and Using Visual Aids" at each of the three Sunday School conventions.

Thrilling Triplets

(Continued from page 9)

sion of business and industry came with postwar prosperity. Today Columbus is the third largest city in Ohio and ranks twenty-eighth in population in the United States.

The high standing of Ohio's capital city in the field of education was launched with the opening in 1873 of the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College—now Ohio State University, tenth largest such institution in the country. Six other colleges are in the metropolitan area. OSU conducts research in many fields—chemical, metallurgical, nuclear, physical, electronic—and in 1951 completed the Ohio State University Medical Health Center, one of the foremost in the field of medicine. Battelle Memorial Institute, a non-profit research institute, specializes in industrial problems and leads all other organizations of its kind in research projects.

Situated in the heart of the industrial core of the nation, in the center of a great agricultural state, and within easy access to the largest population centers of the country, Columbus is rapidly recognized as one of the most strategically located cities of the United States. It is said that two-thirds of the population of the country reside within a 550-mile radius of Ohio's capital city.

Within plane's-eye view of Cleveland, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and other easily accessible transportation centers, Columbus offers perhaps the best travel opportunity of the three "triple convention" sites. Any Sunday school leader who found it too difficult to make the trip west or south will certainly want to make a special effort to join the hundreds of like-minded Christians who will gather at Columbus' new Veteran's Memorial Auditorium November 11-13.

IDENTICAL PROGRAMS

Although the Fourteenth National "Triplet" Sunday School Conventions will be held this year in three separate areas, the same excellent program will be presented at each gathering. Sixty of the hundred staff leaders will be present at all three conventions, and major speakers will present educational and inspirational messages in all three cities. Among the speakers will be Dr. Henrietta Mears, honored for her successful leadership in Sunday school work and youth evangelism; Dr. Robert Pierce, distinguished as an evangelist, war correspondent, and pastoral counselor; Dr. Charles Blair, pastor of a highly successful Christian education-centered church, and Dr. Clate A. Risley, executive secretary of the National Sunday School and known across the land as "Doctor Sunday School."

Institutes and workshops at the three NSSA Conventions will cover every subject of interest to Sunday school teachers and leaders in the field of Christian education. Specialists from large independent publishing houses, secretaries from Sunday school departments of various national denominational offices, professors of Christian education from Christian colleges and seminaries, and pastors of successful churches will join with specialists in architecture, visual aids, music, camping, youth and other areas to make up the huge team of convention workers.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Throughout the general sessions of the three conventions will be scattered "idea spots." Convention personnel will explain "a gem of an idea" which has worked successfully for them. These ideas will concern teaching, Sunday school administration techniques and many other related areas of Christian education.

Then there will be "question and answer sessions." Convention delegates will have opportunity to ask a panel of experts any Sunday School question. Reporters with roving mikes will collect the questions.

A booth for "private counseling" will be available. This booth will be staffed throughout exhibit hours by convention personnel, thus enabling any delegate to secure personal help on any important Sunday School matter.

Special conferences sponsored by denominations for their own people will

An aerial view of Atlan

be featured Wednesdays of the conventions. Workshops and messages designed to meet the specific needs of denominational groups will be offered. These conferences will meet in various churches in the convention area. Delegates would do well to contact their own denominational headquarters for the time and place of the meetings of their particular group.

RECEIVE INSPIRATION

National convention time is the Sunday school teacher's and worker's best chance to receive inspiration for doing a better job during the ensuing year. Contact with leaders in every phase of Christian education and with other workers with similar duties and problems offers unexcelled opportunity for interchange of ideas and broadening the vision of the task before the Sunday schools of America.

Will you be one of the ten or fifteen thousand Sunday school workers who will profit from these triple conventions? For information on program, personnel, registration, housing or any other phase of the conventions, write to: National Sunday School Association, 173-5 North Franklin St., Chicago 6, Illinois (NSSA's new headquarters address. Or if time is too short to write, call DEarborn 2-6720 and make your inquiry to any member of NSSA's executive or office staff. They will be glad to serve you and will look forward to seeing you at one of the 1959 "triple conventions."

cene of the second convention

An interview with

NSSA's executive secretary

"Why Triplets, Dr. Risley?"

▪ For the first time in Sunday school's nearly 200 years, three national conventions will be held in one year. Because of the magnitude of this undertaking, *Action* has asked Dr. Clate Risley, executive secretary of the National Sunday School Association which will sponsor the conventions, to answer some questions.

We asked him first what appeared to us to be the most obvious question. *"How can you have three national conventions in one year?"*

Here was the answer: "The organization and framework of the National Sunday School Association is such that the major business of the association is conducted by the Board of Directors and the General Council. Thus the conventions are basically a time of inspiration and instruction.

"A major convention such as a national will feature well over one hundred personalities, all of them specialists in their respective fields of Christian education. There will be nearly as many exhibitors displaying the latest in materials and equipment.

"This year a team of 55 will take part at all three conventions and another 55 different ones at each convention, making a total of over 200 different people participating in the triple nationals. We say 'triple nationals' because the program will be the same at all three places. The major speakers (with one exception) will be the same at all three places."

"Dr. Risley, why has NSSA explored, as no other national organization, in twin and triple conventions?"

"Because nothing gets the job done like taking the practical down-to-earth how-to-do-it suggestions to the grass roots. At any national convention, at least of a religious nature, where most of the people are paying their own way, 75 per cent or more of the people will come from within 500 miles of the convention city.

"Then, if the people of our nation are to attend national Sunday school conventions, we must take as many as possible to them. I believe that Sunday school work in America is directly reflected in the twin national Sunday school conventions that have been held in alternate years, and I believe that the impact of the triple national Sunday school conventions will be felt immediately."

"What is your thinking as to why Sunday school conventions, and especially your own great national Sunday school convention, have been so used of God?

"The answer is not too difficult. God blesses His Word as it is taught. The better it is taught, the better it is understood, the more lives are changed. With all our orthodoxy, we must communicate truth so that others might be changed. The Sunday school convention enables us to help teachers and workers link the right message with the right methods so that truth is communicated and lives are different because of it.

"More lives should be changed as a result of Sunday school conventions, both directly and indirectly, this year because more people should be reached than ever before. A total of 10,000 key Sunday school teachers and workers in America will attend the triple national Sunday school conventions this fall.

"Any special reason why those trying to decide about attending one of these conventions should definitely decide to go?"

"Every speaker and workshop leader is a reason for Sunday school workers to attend the conventions this year, but, to answer more specifically your question yes, there is something special. These special features will include a panel on "This is the Way We Did It," illustrating the observance of National Family Week, National Sunday School Week and National Youth Week; a visual demonstration, "Forward Now through the Sunday School," illustrating ways NSSA can help the local church, and a question and answer panel answering questions on the spot from the convention floor.

"Every church should plan to be registered at one of these triple conventions. Never before have so many people in our nation had access to a national convention in one year and it is likely that it will never happen again."

"Illiterate religious literature has now become the earmark of evangelicalism," says the author. Do you agree?

the decline of good reading

By A. W. TOZER

THE READING habits of the average evangelical Christian in the United States, as far as I have been able to observe them, are so wretchedly bad as actually to arrest the spiritual development of the individual believer and block the progress of the faith he professes to hold.

So powerful is the effect of the printed page on human character that the reading of good books is not only a privilege but an obligation, and the habitual reading of poor ones a positive tragedy.

Of course I do not here refer to the output of the yellow press. I think we may safely assume that no true Christian would stoop to read the under-the-counter literary obscenities of the corner newsstand or the hole-in-the-wall bookstore. By "poor" books I mean the religious trash being turned out these days by the various publishers under the name of Christian. Tons of this stuff are produced each year to satisfy a market which a previous output has in large measure helped to create.

This religious rubbish is mostly fiction and serves three ends: it helps to fatten the bank account of the evangelical "novelist" who writes it; it keeps the publishers in business, and it feeds the depraved, or at least underdeveloped, appetites of the demi-Christians who find serious reading hard going but who lap up the denatured pabulum of the press as avidly as a kitten laps cream. And if I were allowed a choice I would go along with the kitten, for cream is both tasty and nutritious, while the average religious novel is wholly lacking in nutriment and is found palatable only by those persons whose taste buds have been debauched by prolonged exposure to Christian literature which is, if the truth were told, neither Christian nor literature.

Were a Christian to backslide and read a bad book secretly, as the proverbial schoolboy is said to read the dime novel behind his geography book, one could hope that he might later come to himself and leave the swine pen for the father's house; but what are we to say when bad books become part of the approved curriculum for evangelical Christians in almost all churches?

What can we do when books of a mental level not above nine years are hailed as master works and given rave reviews in the religious press? What are we to say when the melodramatic love stories and spine-chilling adventures of a generation ago are retold by our modern religious writers with a bit of pious dialogue sandwiched in between torrid love embraces or "drop-thet-gun-podner" artificialities to sanctify what would otherwise be a wholly evil production?

Being free from external compulsion, the Christian public quite naturally reads what it likes; and apparently it likes inferior religious literature. Should the conscience protest against the waste of time and energy involved in chronic addiction to literary trivialities, it is soon subverted by the argument that practically everyone approves such stuff, almost all religious publishers produce it and all the bookstores sell it. So what chance does one feeble conscience have against such tremendous odds?

All this accords with the false philosophy current among us which holds that to read anything religious is better than nothing, so we continue to produce literature mediocrities, vapid, amateurish, illiterate, and dedicated to the proposition that anything goes if only somewhere in the book someone makes the point that everybody ought to be born again. No matter how impossible the book in style and substance, if it puts in a dutiful plug for the gospel now and then, the evangelical leaders will bless it with their imprimatur and *nihil obstat*. Indeed it is hardly too much to say that illiterate religious literature has now become the earmark of evangelicalism. It is lamentable that we are content to leave quality to the Catholic and the liberal.

Why does the gospel Christian of today find the reading of great books almost beyond him? Is the intellectual capacity of the evangelical of 1959 inferior to that of his spiritual progenitor of two hundred years ago?

The answer to the first question is somewhat complicated, but the second can be answered easily and correctly with an emphatic *No*. Intellectual powers do not wane from one generation to another. We are as smart as our forefathers. Any thought they could entertain we can entertain if we are sufficiently interested to make the effort.

The major cause of the decline in the quality of current Christian literature is not intellectual; it is spiritual. To enjoy a great religious work requires a degree of consecration to God and detachment from the world that few modern Christians have experienced. The early Christian fathers, the mystics, the Puritans, are not hard to understand, but they inhabit the highlands where the air is crisp and rarefied and none but the God-enamored can come.

Rather than climb the mountain we choose to dig our shallow caves a few feet above the floor of the valley. Our spiritual moods and emotions are degraded. We eat and drink and rise up to play. We take our religious instruction in the form of stories, and anything that requires meditation bores us. And writers and publishers contribute to our delinquency by providing us with plenty of religious nothing to satisfy our carnal appetite.

O ye Americans, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged!

"Give attendance to reading . . ." (1 Timothy 4:13).

There Is Hope

(Continued from page 7)

At least three basic needs must be met if our Sunday schools are to become the more effective instruments they should be. First, there is the need for trained leadership. In addition to all-important spiritual qualifications, these leaders will need to know how to put others to work. They will need to know how to assign duties, how to help those under them to become more effective, how to arouse enthusiasm, and how constantly to keep checking up on results. Such leaders will recognize the necessity of a training program, not only for teachers but for other Sunday school workers They will be keenly aware of the value of morale.

The second need is for vision. In every Sunday school some one or two persons at least must have a concept of what his Sunday school can be. Remember, the great majority of us who are trying to do Sunday school work have never had the advantage of seeing how an effective, purposeful Sunday school works.

This is one of the great values of the national Sunday school conventions held annually by the National Sunday School Association. Such conventions make it possible for busy Sunday school workers who are normally walled up in a local situation to learn what other schools are doing. Inevitably convention goers make the discovery that some Sunday schols are effective, smoothly functioning organizations—*that it can be done!*

At the same time the convention provides down-to-earth help in various aspects of Sunday school work through its many workships. As a result they go back home with a mental blueprint of the kind of Sunday school theirs may well become as well as with some idea of the practical steps they need to take.

The third need which must be met—and in some respects this is the most important—is the need for definite goals and standards. As evangelicals we should know what it takes to make a Sunday school program truly effective. To that end we believe it would be valuable to set up standards of accreditation for Sunday schools such as those established by the National Sunday School Association. This is suggested not with any idea of coercing a local group to comply with standards others have established. Instead, the thought is that the individual church may lay hold of these standards to measure the effectiveness of its school and decide how it can be improved.

By the same token, a limited number of standard, comprehensive examinations might be made available by some central agency for those who wish to test the progress of their Sunday school pupils in certain subjects. Such tests would be comparable to the Regents' examination given in New York State except that they would be for voluntary use. Standard tests for qualifying teachers might also be of value.

Some will feel that even occasional tests are out of place in the Sunday school. But why? We do not hesitate to make use of tests to qualify students for college entrance, for government service, for drivers' licenses. Why should the Sunday school hesitate to put itself on the gold standard of achievement?

Finally, the Sunday school should establish specific goals and standards for each teacher and department within the school. Before the year begins each worker should know exactly what he is to accomplish. At the close of the year a check should be made to see whether that goal was met.

This might lead to an achievement day when Sunday school pupils report on what they have learned during the year. Certainly it should mean a specific report on the work of the Sunday school as a whole.

Next Sunday, no doubt, you'll go to Sunday school. You'll thank God, perhaps, for all it is and all it means to you who attend. You'll enjoy the songs, the lesson time, the fellowship. But along with this, perhaps, you'll have a new sense of the needs in your own Sunday school.

And, perhaps, you'll be increasingly uncomfortable about each one until your Sunday school is as good as you know in your heart it can be.

john noble
SLAVE IE241
ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT COMMUNISM—

▪ Our American nation is facing a critical era as never before in history. Two choices are before us—Christ or Communism—and we are being forced to take a stand. We can only serve one. They are incompatible and Christ has said, "He that is not with me is against me."

The rigorous demands of Communism are expressed in these and similar words by Marx, Lenin, Stalin, and Khrushchev: "We will tolerate no loyalty other than loyalty to the Communist cause."

The subtlety of Satanic temptation has been stripped off and he now approaches us with open cards through Communism. Satan is the master-mind of Communism and his purpose is to destroy the evidence of Christian faith.

Communism tells us there is no God—that man is a just the refined product of the animal kingdom. This philosophy makes the senseless murder of innocent human beings understandable since to them there is nothing sacred about human life.

While in Soviet prisons and slave labor camps (as an American citizen) from 1945 to 1955, I witnessed innocent people being whipped like brutes and shot or starved like rats by the thousands day after day.

The Communists say they are going to "bury America" and are claimed to have set 1972-73 as their target date! They go on to say that they will have to do away with 50 to 60 million American citizens because they cannot be converted to Communism.

Yet the average American still seems not to realize the danger of playing around with the forces of hell and of holding hands with Satan by recognizing the atheistic Communistic regime. We are often told that we must love the Communists and do all we can to get along with them since the Bible tells us to love our neighbors. Granted that the Bible tells us to love our neighbors, but it does not tell us to love the manifestations of darkness.

We should love our neighbors—the Russian people—and do all in our power to help bring them back to an existence where they can read the Bible and worship God without the danger of being dragged off to dungeons and slave labor prisons for doing so.

Have you taken a firm stand. It is Christ or Communism!

After spending more than nine years in various Russian prisons and finding Jesus Christ as personal Saviour in this period, John Noble is in a unique position to interpret Russian Communism and the present-day crisis in the light of the Scriptures. Address your questions to him in care of this magazine.

THIS — PRESENT — WORLD —

interpreting around-the-world ne

Two Funerals

■ THE PLACE: New York City.

The occasion: funerals (on different days) of two innocent victims of the city's latest gang war.

The speakers: a Protestant Episcopal vicar and a Roman Catholic priest.

The dialogue: Said the vicar, "We are the guilty ones—the police, social workers, clergy, citizens—all of us caught up, as was Theresa, in the tragic and demonic forces of our age."

Said the priest: "The only thing these juvenile gangs understand is force. Let us meet force with force. We have had too much coddling of these gangs and marauders."

The angry prelate assailed "the professional sob sisters, over-sympathetic youth board consultants, and professional do-gooders" who seem "obsessed with the senseless theory that there is no such thing as a bad boy." This, he said, is like having a theory that "there are no mad dogs."

"The tap on the wrists by the courts is worthless . . . This understanding, this kindness, this gentleness" in dealing with juvenile gangsters has resulted in "marauding bands with, if not murder in their hearts, at least mayhem in their minds."

"We hope," he added, "that out of this tragedy, out of this evil, that good may come. We hope the authorities will realize we are at war with a criminal element. This is our hope. This is our prayer."

Somehow we agree with the priest.

Showcase Collapse

■ RUSSIA'S RELIGIOUS showcase collapsed in Stalingrad as far as Paul Geren, director of the Dallas (Tex.) Council on World Affairs, is concerned. The responses which his question, "Where is the Baptist church?" drew formed a revealing barometer of religion under Communism.

"We had been told in Moscow that there was a Baptist church in Stalingrad," said Mr. Geren, the son of a Texas Baptist preacher. "We were not given its address. That was the problem when we flew in at noon on a hot Sunday."

Here are some of the replies he and his companions received in their quest:

The official Intourist guide said, "We do not sponsor trips to churches, but you are free to go there if you like."

The telephone information operator stated, "There is no telephone for a Baptist church in Stalingrad."

From a policeman: "I think there is a Baptist church but I don't know where. Better ask a taxi driver, but be sure he is an older one."

The taxi driver: "I have never seen a Baptist church in Stalingrad, and wouldn't know if I saw it."

An ambulance driver with a Red Cross marked car: "I know where there is a church. Get in and I'll take you." (It turned out to be Russian Orthodox.)

The Dallas community leader reported he asked fully 25 persons without finding the Baptist church. The next day the American visitors were shown the little prayer house of the Baptists in Stalingrad, "a one-room house, seating 75 made of rough-hewn lumber, and standing on an out-of-the-way street."

A young teacher of Russian and English in the city Agricultural Institute had said he would take them to it. "Then you are a Baptist?" Mr. Geren replied.

"Of course not," the instructor said in perfect English. "I have nothing to do with religion. The Baptist church happens to be on a street I pass as I go to the Institute. I have an aunt who has become a mad Baptist and the family doesn't know what to do with her."

Postmaster Gratified

■ POSTMASTER GENERAL Arthur E. Summerfield, warning the nation's letter carriers that they are the unwilling agents for delivery of more than one million pieces of pornographic mail a year to the nation's children, said he is "deeply gratified" by the support his clean-up drive is receiving from religious and civic organizations.

Addressing the National Rural Letter Carriers Association, he said, "This vicious business—the mailing of filth to children—is a challenge to every decent-minded American citizen." The volume of business done by peddlers of smut has tripled since the end of World War II, he said, doubling in the last five years alone.

"Civic and religious organizations, deeply shocked by the concentration of this racket on children, have mobilized their members for programs to help meet the challenge. I think you will agree that this is a good start," he told the carriers, "but I cannot emphasize too greatly the need to conduct this war to the finish."

Item: Federal prosecutions of large dealers in obscenity are at an all-time high, with arrests for the 1959 fiscal year up 7.5 per cent over last year.

Preferred Risk

■ RISK OF TOTALITARIAN domination is preferable to "assuming responsibility for a nuclear holocaust," the General Conference of the Mennonite Church told President Eisenhower recently.

In a letter to the nation's Chief Executive, the Conference expressed "deep concern over the continued development, testing, and prospective use of nuclear weapons." It condemned their use "to accomplish massive destruction, bringing serious damage to the genetic character of survivors and the contamination of the very earth" as "a most grevious sin against God and man."

"Centuries of persecution," said the letter, "including experiences of Mennonites living in totalitarian states since 1917, have not left us unaware of the circumstances of life when anti-Christian totalitarianism reigns. . . . However, we would prefer facing the risk of possible totalitarian domination to assuming responsibility for a nuclear holocaust bring certain annihilation of whole peoples, with its resultant disorder and chaos, whether this be called offense or defense."

A Praying Man

■ THE NEW COMMANDANT of the United States Marine Corps, Major General David M. Shoup, is a tough Marine, but, we are told, he's also a praying man. General Shoup, 54, who won the Congressional Medal of Honor on the bloody beaches of Tarawa in World War II, described himself frankly as a "devout Methodist" and there is always a Bible on his desk.

His selection as new chief of the Marine Corps came as a surprise, not only because he was jumped over nine generals senior to him in rank and service, but because he is not an Annapolis

for evangelicals

man, but a graduate of a small church-related college (DePauw University).

General Shoup wrote down his first three thoughts when word came to him in the office of the Secretary of the Secretary of the Navy—and it was a complete surprise — that President Eisenhower was about to send his nomination to the Senate as a four-star general and next commandment of the Corps.

They were:

1. One can scale great heights in this life with an Angel for a mother and an Angel for a wife—and may God bless both of them.

2. Lightning has surely struck me but as I consider Him who controls where lightning shall strike, I am comforted.

3. I hope those responsible for my selection were influenced by Divine guidance.

No. 3 Problem

■ ALCOHOLICS ARE BEING produced in the United States at the rate of more than 1,200 a day—over 50 an hour around the clock—a noted authority on alcoholism warned recently.

Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, chairman of the department of clinical sciences, University of Illinois, said that "alcoholism is now the nation's number three health problem from the standpoint of incidence, lives lost, and people disabled."

He said it ranks immediately behind heart disease and cancer in its toll in American society.

Gains are being made, however, he reported, in the fight against alcoholism and that there has been a 13 per cent decrease in adult drinkers in the last 12 years. He attributed most of the decline to women, saying, "Increasingly women are deciding it's not worth the price to keep up with the hard-pouring Joneses."

Item: There will be something missing at all official Canadian government entertaining in the future — liquor. Prime Minister John Diefenbaker set the pattern at a dinner in Montreal to celebrate the official opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. He issued orders that no cocktails were to be served. The experiment turned out so successfully that the government decided to make it official and regular practice.

Disappointed

■ SCORES OF RUSSIANS have registered disappointment that no more of American religious life is included in the popular exhibit built in Moscow's Sokolniki Park. Among the blizzard of questions from the visitors was one posed by an alert little old woman who wanted to know "Are the Americans really a believing nation, or are they interested only in cars and color TV?"

Many of the Russians who have spent hours under the gleaming gold dome of the fair have been openly impressed by the range of American material achievement. But they have come away baffled at finding, as one visitor put it, "so few religious exhibits." The American guides have pointed, among other things, to the book section which includes Bibles and religious volumes; religious paintings; displays of modern church architecture in the U.S.; and films that depict various phases of U.S. religious life and activity.

One pathetic scene occurred when a frail old woman asked permission to hold one of the Bibles. She kept it in her hands for long, rapt minutes, and with loving fingers turned a page or two. When finally she handed back the Bible, she asked, wistfully; "Perhaps you'll let me keep it?"

When the officials reluctantly informed her that none of the Bibles could be removed, she turned and walked sadly away.

Item: The American Bible Society offered to provide more than 330,000 Bibles, Testaments and Scripture portions for free circulation at the exhibit, but the offer was refused because international agreements prohibits such distribution. The Society did, however, donate an adequate supply of Scriptures to replace those "removed or damaged by tremendous wear."

American officials had said it was "necessary to station guards around the Bible exhibit" to prevent their handling by visitors. The Society offered the new supply to permit visitors to examine the Bibles more freely.

Federal Aid

■ IF THE PRESENT TREND continues, "the United States will find itself involved in a form of church establishment" in the matter of federal aid for graduate students, NAE's associate secretary of public affairs.

Donald H. Gill, *Action's* Washington correspondent, made the statement in a criticism of Union Theological Seminary in New York for accepting federal aid in support of graduate study in theology. Union awarded five fellowships to Protestant ministers working for their Th.D. with the intention of becoming college teachers. The seminary will receive a grant of up to $2,500 a year per student to defray its instructional costs, while the fellows will receive stipends up to $2,400 a year while pursuing graduate studies.

Gill charged that "it is increasingly apparent that a major segment of liberal Protestantism has abandoned all concern for the principle of separation of Church and State. Few citizens are given enough of the facts to know the seriousness of precedents being set."

"Unless the conscience of American religious leaders is soon aroused," he added, "to the extent that they will be willing to refuse government grants for religious purposes, the guarantee of the First Amendment to the Constitution will become meaningless and the U. S. will find itself involved in a form of church establishment."

Evangelical Defense

■ SPANISH PROTESTANTS, who constitute a tiny minority in a population of 30 million which is 95 per cent Roman Catholic, have organized an Evangelical Defense Commission "to combat by legal means what they term "oppressive" acts by government authorities.

Spain's Protestant community has been listed by various sources as low as 10,000 and no higher than 30,000. Formation of the defense commission—a strictly private group since under Spanish law no public organization of this kind can expect official sanction—resulted from discriminatory practices to which Protestants have repeatedly complained they have been subjected.

Quick Glimpses

■ DESPITE HAWAII'S predominantly non-Christian population, the newest state has sent three Christians as its representatives in Congress. The new governor is a Roman Catholic . . . THE INDIANAPOLIS schools will be closed to Billy Graham crusade teams when the evangelist conducts a campaign there in October. The School Board president said the decision does not indicate "approval or disapproval of Graham or the program," but is a reflection of the board's "policy and plans" . . . SOUTHERN BAPISTS have named Brooks Hays, their former president and a former congressman, as their first permanent observer to the United Nations . . . TARGET FOR A 100,000 watt Christian missionary radio transmitter being erected at Okuma, Okinawa, is "all of Communist China and parts of the Soviet Union." The station is the 13th for the Far East Broadcasting Company . . . A NEW PENNSYLVANIA law raises the state's Sunday Blue Law fine from $4 to $100 for the first offense and $200 or 30 days in jail for repeat violations.

Today's World

(Continued from page 15)

many of our churches, our denominations, and our publishing houses. Such is not the spirit of cooperation that will give us unity and oneness in revival.

Our next step toward accomplishment is a training program that will enable every member of the local church to be trained and working. Training is the key to more workers. Training is the key to efficiency and we must have more efficient workers if we double in ten years.

The denominations that have made the greatest progress, and the greatest growth have placed the greatest emphasis on training. Again leaders in local churches and the denominations are going to have to make up their minds to train.

The last step I mention is a natural by-product of spiritual revival, cooperation, and training, and that is the financial undergirding that such an effort will take. More church buildings, more training schools, more materials, equipment, literature—all of these are important and necessary today, even if the early church was without them.

Should Christ tarry, a doubled Sunday school enrolment in America would make an impact felt around the world, for there would be more workers and more money to reach the unreached millions of other lands.

Stop and think a moment. Are you seeing to it that there will be more workers ten years from now? Ten years from now every junior boy and girl will be 19-21 years old. Are you making missionaries out of those juniors? And insuring money to send more workers?

In the next ten years let us begin a teaching and training program that will give us a generation of Christians that understand the New Testament principles of giving. First, let's discover for ourselves and, second, let's teach our boys and girls and young people what the Bible says about stewardship responsibilities. You can teach the adults, too, but you won't teach them much.

Sunday school is important. If we believe it, we must make others believe it,

our churches believe it,
our community believe it,
and the world believe it.

They must know that we believe it is important. Individually we must seek revival in our hearts. Cooperatively we must seek unity, oneness in Christ. Together in Christ we can do what God wants us to do.

NEEDED: AMMUNITION FOR OUR FRONT LINE TROOPS

By LARRY WARD

■ IN A CROWDED MARKET place in Rangoon, Burma, I stopped at a bookseller's stall and leafed through the numerous English-language books on sale.

A title caught my eye: *Women of China.* I picked up the attractive magazine-format publication, glanced through its pages. There were various articles about the women of today's (Red) China, including eulogy for those who had been outstanding in surpassing their quotas for farm or factory work. But the article on the last page, in contrast to the mild propaganda elsewhere in the book, stabbed hard. There was a picture of wild-eyed Chinese woman, shaking her fist in savage fury at a "Hate America" rally. And the article on the page told the world that the women of China were ready to take up arms in defense of their country if the hated imperialists ever attacked the mainland.

I turned to a scholarly looking paperbound text: *A Simple Geography of China.* Much of it was simple, factual geographic information, but here and there I caught barbed comments such as "Under the reactionary regime in the past, the people were exploited and oppressed ruthlessly, and they were backward politically, economically and culturally. Since liberation, however, many national autonomous *chou* and counties have been set up, and their conditions improved all around and an unbreakable national unity achieved."

There were other examples of Red literature, ranging from an obviously biased history of China to a barbed storybook for children direct from Moscow. All of it hit hard and, I had to admit, effectively.

I looked around. Beside me stood a bespectacled youth, apparently a student, lost in the avid reading of *China Reconstructs,* another attractive pictorial like *Women of China.*

This was in Burma, another of today's ideological battlefields. American money is pouring into Burma in a sincere (if somewhat belated) example of Free World interest. American missionaries like the great Adoniram Judson long have carried the claims of Christ to Burma's teaming cities, tropic jungles, towering mountains. But counter-balancing these efforts is a constant and vicious onslaught of colorful, attractive literature from both China and Russia.

Standing there, I shook my head as I saw a familiar pattern repeated.

In Calcutta, I had seen Communist hawkers peddling attractive literature direct from Russia.

In Belgium, at last year's World Fair, I had been loaded down with Russian brochures and pamphlets the moment I had entered the massive Soviet exhibit.

In Hong Kong I had seen children sitting on a curb, pouring over Red comic books.

In Japan I had seen earnest young students in a park with their arms loaded with what I was told was Communist propaganda.

In Singapore I had seen a sidewalk book stall with both English and Chinese magazines and books carrying the Communist line.

In Italy a voluble young man on a bus had spouted out the familiar Red line, turning for "proof" of his assertions to the weighty Marxist tome he carried.

And I confess I sighed a little as I remembered standing in a railroad station in Formosa with a missionary friend. We were passing out Christian "literature" — used Christmas cards with a Scripture text. Soon even these had been distributed, and we had been forced to stand shaking our heads apologetically while empty hands still reached out imploringly.

Yes, thank God, the church is fighting back on the battleground of literature. But all too often our "front line troops" fight with inadequate or outdated literature "ammunition"—while apparently inexorable supplies continue to pour forth from Moscow and Peking.

Remembering all this, my heart cried out with the prophet of old: *"Let the Word of the Lord go forth!"*

NEXT MONTH BE SURE TO READ —

- **The Truth about the Protestant Situation in Spain**
- **What I Saw in Hawaii on Admission Day**
- **Is Your Church Successful?**

Evangelical Newsfront

RNS AND E/P REPORTS

UEA CORRESPONDENCE

Rev. Thomas F. Zimmerman

Rev. Billy A. Melvin

Denominations

Thomas F. Zimmerman To Direct Assemblies

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—At the twenty-eighth biennial General Council of Assemblies of God, held recently in San Antonio, Tex., Rev. Thomas F. Zimmerman was named general superintendent of the denomination. Mr. Zimmerman, who has been serving as the assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies, succeeds Rev. Ralph M. Riggs, who plans to retire.

The new general superintendent has held pastorates in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Missouri. Besides duties in the Assemblies of God headquarters, he has served as executive director of the denomination's Radio, Public Relations and Personnel Departments and the Gospel Publishing House. He is first vice president of the National Association of Evangelicals, vice president and former president of the National Religious Broadcasters, and on the board of directors of two Assemblies of God colleges—Evangel and Central Bible Institute.

Other top officials selected during the convention include Rev. Bert Webb, Rev. Charles W. H. Scott, and Rev. Gayle F. Lewis—all returned to offices of assistant general superintendent; Rev. Howard Bush of Lakeland, Fla., promoted from non-resident executive to the office of assistant general superintendent, and Rev. Bartlett Peterson, general secretary, succeeding Dr. J. Roswell Flower, who has retired.

Among important actions taken at the Assemblies' biennial was the vote to establish its own Chaplaincy Commission. For the past eight years the church has worked through the commission of the National Association of Evangelicals.

Immediately following close of the convention, Mr. Zimmerman and Mr. Webb left for a two-and-a-half months' tour of the Assemblies mission stations in Africa.

Free Will Baptists Choose Executive

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Rev. Billy A. Melvin, a Norfolk, Va., pastor, has been named executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. The announcement was made at the denominational headquarters here following a meeting of the General Board which made the selection.

Melvin, 29, takes the top post of the denomination which has some 200,000 members. He succeeds W. S. Mooneyham who resigned after six years to become editor of *United Evangelical Action.*

The new secretary is a graduate of Taylor University and received a B. D. from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. Prior to his election he was pastor of Bethany Free Will Baptist church, Norfolk. He is also a member of the NAE Commission on Chaplains and a captain in the Civil Air Patrol.

He will assume his new duties about November 1.

"Year of Jubilee" To Follow Merger

MINNEAPOLIS—Plans for a "Year of Jubilee" highlighting merger next spring of three Lutheran bodies were revealed here recently by a thirteen-member committee. Included on the committee are representatives of the American (ALC), Evangelical (ELC) and United Evangelical (UELC) Lutheran Churches which will formally unite as "The American Lutheran Church," a new 2,200,000-member Lutheran body.

Theme for the "Jubilee Year" is "On the Way Rejoicing," emphasis to be placed on prayer, Bible study and evangelism.

American Baptists Open Christian Writing Center

GREEN LAKE, Wisc.—A Christian writing center open to members of all Protestant denominations has been established here on the grounds of the American Baptist Assembly.

Located in a twenty-room structure, the Center is to be a year-round residence for writers on assignment, officials of the American Baptist Board of Education and Publication have announced. Plans have also been revealed for setting up a research center for a Protestant strategy of communication and a personnel bureau for Christian writers and editors.

Missouri Synod Adopts Increased 1960 Budget

ST. LOUIS—A 1960 budget of $19,772,887 was adopted by district presidents, treasurers, stewardship counselors, and financial leaders of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod at a recent meeting in Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill. The figure represents a 19.8% increase over the current budget.

Largest item in the budget is $9,517,500 for educational purposes. The Synod proposes to spend $7,153,192 for missions during 1960. Lutheran Television Productions, producers of the Synod's television program "This Is the Life," will receive $811,025 for twenty-six dramatic half-hour Holly-

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wood-produced film episodes. The program, soon to begin its eighth year, is currently carried on approximately 300 stations.

Mennonite Committee Assigns New Personnel

AKRON, Pa.—Twenty-five voluntary service persons were oriented at a recent executive committee meeting of Mennonite Central Committee held here and assigned to positions in seven different locations.

Beginning the new school year in Newfoundland will be ten teachers who will work in six community schools. Other assignments are to Haiti, Europe, Greece, and various points in the United States. Replacement personnel have been assigned to Korea and Indonesia.

Education

Christian Day School Occupies New Building

LOS ANGELES—As the fall sessions of Culter Academy get under way here, elementary school children will occupy a new building, and construction of a new high school is scheduled to follow.

"These new facilities," said President John F. Blanchard, Jr., "will enable us to do a better job of training the whole child in accordance with the specific Christian objectives of Culter Academy, not only in the fields of reading, writing and arithmetic, but with the addition of the spiritual values which made our country great."

Construction of the new buildings is considered by school and city officials to be a major achievement, in view of the "knock-out" blow received by the institution last winter. City building and safety officials all but closed the school in a safety drive which followed Chicago's Catholic parochial school fire in which a number of children perished.

The new elementary school structure is a one-story building valued at $100,000, according to the architect, William Ulrich, whose son is a graduate of the school and whose grandson is currently enrolled there. It includes seven classrooms, accommodating kindergarten through sixth grade. The classrooms surround a patio and there is a side play yard for the first and second graders.

Accrediting Association In 1959 Annual Meeting

CHICAGO—"The Word of God in Education" is the theme of the 1959 annual meeting of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges to be held here October 29-30, is the announcement made by Dr. S. A. Witmer of Fort Wayne, Ind., executive director. Dr. Cornelius Haggard of Azusa (Calif.) College, president of the AABC, will preside at all sessions, which will be held at Moody Bible Institute, concluding with a luncheon at Lawson YMCA.

Speakers for the meeting will include Evangelist Billy Graham, Dr. Frank Gaebelein, headmaster of Stony Brook School, Long Island, N. Y., and President Bernt C. Opsal of Lutheran Bible Institute, Minneapolis.

General sessions of the annual meeting, Dr. Witmer says, are open to the public, particularly to representatives of Bible institutes, Bible colleges, and related organizations and institutions.

The Accrediting Association is recognized as the accrediting agency for Bible institutes and Bible colleges by the United States Office of Education, the American Council on Education and other organizations.

Journalism School Opened at Multnomah

PORTLAND, Ore.—A School of Missionary Journalism has been opened this fall at Multnomah School of the Bible here.

"The need for missionary journalism has never been greater," is the view expressed by Dr. Willard M. Aldrich, MSB president, who added, "When more and more mission fields are being closed to the flesh-and-blood missionary, the gospel leaflet becomes the paper missionary which no curtain—purple, bamboo, or iron—can keep out."

The new school will have as its acting director Edward W. Goodrick, who has been serving as director of the Christian Service Department of the M. S. B. Mr. Goodrick assumes the position with a varied writing background, Multnomah officials reveal. He has prepared Sunday School materials for the American Sunday School Union and Scripture Press and for two years edited a youth page for the *Biblical Research Monthly*.

Classes for the school are being scheduled in basic and advanced journalism, creative writing, editing, publishing, and distribution.

Houghton Gets Grant For Science Program

HOUGHTON, N. Y.—When the second semester of the current school year begins in January 1960 Houghton College expects to have new accommodations for its science students, the college's public relations office has revealed. The enlarged facilities will be made possible by a grant of $7,500 from Smith, Kline & French Foundation, Philadelphia, which has been earmarked for the science program.

Expansion plans, college officials indicate, include a new laboratory to accommodate Houghton's advanced chemistry students.

Expansion Program Nearing Completion

CANTON, Ohio—A student body of around 400 this fall is anticipated by Malone College, recently established in the Canton area and considered to be the newest campus in the Midwest, according to Paul E. Uhrig, director of public relations for the school.

Malone is nearing completion of a $1,025,000 citywide drive for college expansion. Present educational buildings include the library, classrooms, science laboratories, music wing, food services, student lounge and administration wing. It is hoped to expand facilities to accommodate 800 students, adding a science hall with classrooms and laboratories and a physical education-auditorium building.

Taylor Granted AEC Contract

UPLAND, Ind. — Taylor University has been awarded a contract by the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine for continuation of research already in progress, it was reported here by Dr. Milo A. Rediger, academic dean and president.

The award, totaling $6,856, is for a period of one year and will be used to purchase scientific equipment and provide for the services of qualified personnel.

The research program was established at Taylor over a year ago through an initial grant of $7,500 from the AEC.

CULTER ACADEMY FIGHTS BACK

In effective counteraction to a safety "crack-down" imposed last January, Culter Academy breaks ground for a new school. Wielding the shovels (with junior assistance) are, left to right, E. E. Spitzer, principal inspector of the schools division for the school's district, Ransom N. Callicott; John F. Blanchard, Jr., president of the Academy, and Alfred Dickson, chairman of the Academy's board of directors.

Northern Baptist Offers Evening Graduate Courses

CHICAGO—This fall, for the first time in its history, Northern Baptist Theological Seminary will offer evening theological study for graduate credit, officials of the seminary have announced here.

The courses are designed to orient students to the contemporary problems of the Christian church in America, according to Dr. Leland D. Hine, associate professor of church history. "American Christianity," offered the autumn quarter, surveys the growth of the church from colonial days through the westward expansion to the church structure of the mid-twentieth century. In the winter quarter, students undertake a systematic, critical study of "Modern Cults," and the spring quarter's offering has to do with "Religious Liberty."

Dr. Armerding Appointed Gordon's Executive Head

BEVERLY FARMS, Mass. — The Board of Trustees of Gordon College and Gordon Divinity School here has announced the appointment of Dr. Hudson T. Armerding as executive administrator, pending appointment of a president. The institution has been without a chief executive since March 12 when Dr. T. Leonard Lewis, president for more than fourteen years, died suddenly of a heart attack.

Dr. Armerding joined the faculty of Gordon in 1948 as Professor of History and in 1951 was elected dean of the College, a position he has held until the present. He holds degrees from Wheaton (Ill.) College, Clark University, Worcester, Mass., and the University of Chicago.

During the past year Gordon College of Theology and Missions, the official corporate name, had a combined enrollment of over 500 students and officials indicate that they expect an increase this fall.

Selection of a permanent president is expected sometime during the coming academic year.

President Likens Move To "Children of Israel"

LOS ANGELES—"It reminds me of the Children of Israel leaving Egypt," stated Dr. Samuel H. Sutherland, president of the fifty-year-old Bible Institute of Los Angeles, as he commented on the school's recent move to its new campus in La Mirada. "After the rush and noise of downtown Los Angeles," Dr. Sutherland declared, "We feel like, in an earthly sense at least, that La Mirada is the 'promised land'."

After the move, which is scheduled to take place in September, 700 young people are expected to be enrolled in the three schools to occupy the new campus—the three-year Bible Institute, the four-year Biola College, and the three-year graduate Talbot Theological Seminary. Ultimately the new campus is planned to accommodate an enrollment of more than 1500 students. The fourth school of the organization, the Biola School of Missionary Medicine, because of its proximity to the

CBA Registrations Break All Records

■ REGISTRATION FOR THE Tenth Annual Christian Booksellers' Convention, held recently in Pantlind Hotel and Civic Auditorium, Grand Rapids, Mich., far exceeded that of any previous such gatherings, is the word from William F. Moore, CBA's executive secretary. Of the 1,586 persons registered, there were 698 bookstore personnel, 498 exhibitors and 390 guests, says Mr. Moore. Bookstores represented in the registration list numbered 367 and the number of companies which exhibited their wares at the convention totaled 125. And to add interest to the colorful scene were six exhibits from foreign countries: Bible Supplies, Kingstown, St. Vincent, T. W. I.; Evangel Press and Book Room, Manila, P. I.; Gospel Bookstore, Khartoum, Sudan Africa; Sunday School Centre Bookstore, Cape Town, Union of South Africa, and Word of Life Press, Tokyo, Japan.

From the opening of the convention in Pantlind on Sunday with a sacred concert featuring well-known recording artists to the closing banquet on Friday evening the program was replete with features of vital interest to authors, publishers, sellers—in short, to all persons involved in any way in production and distribution of Christian books. This interest was evidenced by the excellent attendance at all sessions. Devotions were led each morning by Eugenia Price, Christian author and radio personality. The keynote address of the convention was given by Lugene White of Wheaton, Ill., CBA president. There were practical sessions on such helpful themes as merchandising, financing, business methods, selling and many other problems. Luncheon speakers included Russell T. Hitt, editor of *Eternity* magazine and author of "Jungle Pilot"; Ivan Allbutt, publications secretary of China Inland Mission, and Chaplain H. Park Tucker of the U. S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga., and author of "The Prison Is My Parish." Closing message at the banquet was given by Jack Hamm, Christian cartoonist and television personality of Waco, Texas. Some five hundred persons arose early enough to attend the seven o'clock breakfast given through courtesy of Gospel Light Publications. The sightseeing tour of Grand Rapids and the trip through the Zondervan Publishing plant were other highlights.

Heart of the convention was the Exhibit Hall. Facilities for displaying the row-upon-row of colorful exhibits were excellent. No one exhibitor had advantage over another. All exhibits were in plain view—and it would be difficult to decide which one was the most interesting. Artistic desgins, colorful book jackets, varied Bible editions, gift accessories and numerous other attractive displays caught the eyes of the hundreds of interested viewers who constantly streamed through the halls whenever the exhibits were open. And ears as well as the eyes were challenged. Several record exhibits not only featured music on records, but the artists themselves were present and sang for the passerby.

In a word, the Christian Booksellers Convention was "tremendous." It is a certain guess that all those in attendance will want to accept the invitation when it is extended for next year's convention—the place: Hotel Sherman, Chicago.

LATE NEWS AT PRESS TIME

THE PROHIBITION Party's candidate for the presidency is Dr. R. L. Decker, for the past 15 years pastor of Temple Baptist church, Kansas City, Mo., and a former executive director of NAE. Named as his running mate at a party convention at Winona Lake, Ind., was E. Harold Munn, assistant dean of Hillsdale (Mich.) College.

A CHECK FOR over $2,500 has just been received by the NAE World Relief Commission from CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) representing designated gifts made during the 1958 CROP campaigns.

REFUGEES FROM Soviet-occupied East Germany continue to pour into West Berlin at an increasing rate. The reception center processed 7,765 refugees in July—a daily average of 250 and 1,255 more than came in June. Over one-fourth of them were unaccompanied children.

CHURCH AND denominational executives, editors, and pastors are invited to attend a civil defense religious affairs course to be held at Battle Creek, Mich., October 26-29. The courses are held each year to familiarize church leaders with civil defense planning, and with the roles that churches and their leaders can play in civil defense emergencies.

MOB VIOLENCE in La Plata, Colombia, on September 3 resulted in the destruction of Evangelical Church property valued at 10,000 pesos ($1,200). Witnesses said it started with a strong denunciation of Protestants by the local priest who announced by loudspeaker that an anti-Protestant demonstration would follow mass the next Sunday (Sept. 6). A mob of several hundred gathered on Thursday, however, led by a number of prominent people who had been incited by the priest and marched to the church where the damage was done.

PENNSYLVANIA'S TEN-year-old law requiring Bible-reading in the schools and the widespread practice of compulsory classroom recitation of the Lord's Prayer have just been ruled unconstitutional by a special three-judge Federal Court. Dr. Charles H. Boehn, state superintendent of public instruction, said he would consult with the state attorney general before issuing any instructions to the schools on the decisions. He said it was possible that the state would join in an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Readers Say—

Objects to Slick Paper

To the Editor:

I very much regret your action in using slick paper for *Action* magazine —which makes it much harder to read for old people and those with impaired vision as in my case. I do not need to be told that it produces better halftone cuts.

About thirty years ago when a new two-inch-thick Christian Science Hymnal came out of Boston, much was made of the unglazed paper stock which made glare for the organist's or singer's eyes impossible. All Standard Hymnals in North America have followed this trend.

Just make a test by having any person with impaired vision try to read aloud from the "new" paper, contrasted with the old non-glare stock. I find it almost impossible now to read "Readers Say." Plenty of your readers will be hindered by this shiny paper but few will write to the editor and complain about it.

HOWARD WADE KIMSEY
New York, N. Y.

A Nathan or an Elijah?

To the Editor:

"Where Is the Lord God of Elijah?" by Edward P. Coleson in the August issue of *Action* points out to me that Protestantism today is suffering because it lacks both Nathan and Elijah type leadership.

Officials of State are garnered in by this or that denomination and apparently they are above criticism. This leads me to note that Sabbath observance was once a cardinal principle of Protestantism which received from the Word of God was supposed to be observed accordingly.

However, it seems to me that not too long ago two of our high officials did not set a good example of Sunday observance. For on a certain Sunday President Eisenhower spent the afternoon at golf and Vice President Nixon spent the same afternoon at a double header ball game. And it is known that on occasion the regular time of Sabbath Church services have been moved forward to accommodate the President's golf game and time for his plane trip to Washington.

And so far as I know, to date if there is either a Nathan or an Elijah in the Protestant church, they are rather quiet.

J. W. HOLMES
Carnegie, Pa.

"Personalized Gifts" Ruling

To the Editor:

Recently several evangelical publications have noted the new ruling of the Internal Revenue Service of April 9, 1959 in which "personalized gifts," including gifts to a mission board or church earmarked for a particular missionary, are not deductible for income tax purposes. Unfortunately, I have not seen in any of these publications the desire or the attempt to protest the ruling for the benefit and the furtherance of the Lord's work around the world.

The publications have suggested that mission boards will be forced to revise their financial policies regarding the seeking of support for individual missionaries and also that some missionaries will undoubtedly be hindered or others may be forced to discontinue their work. If I have understood the ruling correctly, these observations are masterful understatements of the harmful effect which this ruling will have upon all faith mission work.

It is well-known that the so-called faith missions have been and are the most active promoters of missionary activity around the world, and they are also the major channels by which evangelical Christians contribute to the missionary enterprise. All of these missions from their inception have been based upon the principle of "personal support" for the hundreds of missionaries who serve under their auspices. Must all faith missions, as well as individual missionaries now either (1) cease to operate, (2) become impersonal and institutional or (3) be denied the not inconsiderable advantage of tax deductions for their donors?

I am deeply convinced that faith missions as they are known today, and independent missionaries as well, will continue despite this discriminatory blow which has as its result the penalization of those who support them. God's work does not depend upon the government's favor or disfavor and those who continue to hold to principles and methods which they consider biblical and right, though deeply tested, will still be greatly blessed.

Certainly many individual Christians, mission executives, missionary organizations and Christian publications should rebel against this ruling and through their united efforts, and going through the proper government channels, attempt to re-establish the right of the Christian to give his tithes and offerings to bona fide missionaries, whatever their connections, without being discriminated against and without being penalized.

WM. C. STANDRIDGE, JR.
Rome, Italy

Used Christian Books?

To the Editor:

Am wondering if any of your readers have any used Christian books they would care to send me. They are for missionaries and native workers in Africa and The Philippine Islands. The books should be fundamental and evangelical of course.

EDMUND NELSON
R. No. 5, Columbus, Ind.

hospitals in which students work and receive part of their training, is to continue operating in downtown Los Angeles.

"Upside Down World" Seen Through Science

CHICAGO—A new Sermons from Science film on sense perception, entitled "Windows of the Soul" is now in production at Moody Institute of Science, the film-producing branch of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Expected to be available for release this fall, the new film, produced by Dr. Irwin A. Moon, shows how a person keeps in touch with the world about him through his eyes, ears and nose.

Featured demonstrations in this new film will show how the energy of silent sound can make objects float in mid-air or even cause an ordinary corkscrew to drill a spiral hole through solid glass. Also to be seen is a little-known technique perfected at Moody Institute of Science which actually makes odors visible. The "upside down world" which is seen by the human eye is demonstrated by Dr. Moon as he wears special inverting spectacles which turn everything upside down.

Taylor University Given AEC Grant

UPLAND, Ind.—Taylor University has received from the Atomic Energy Commission a supplemental grant of $3,465, Dr. Milo A. Rediger, Academic Dean and Interim President, has announced. The grant is part of AEC's program of assistance in equipping college and university laboratories for training in nuclear technology as applied to the life sciences. The amount awarded to Taylor is in addition to a similar grant of $8,000 received in March, 1958.

The additional grant will permit increased student participation in the training program and will make possible the utilization of nuclear equipment, in certain chemistry and physics courses not previously included in the program. It also provides equipment and training aids which may be used in special adult education classes.

The purpose of the grants is to help colleges and universities expand their facilities for training in radiation biology and in the use of radioisotopes in the field of agriculture, veterinary medicine, medicine and pharmacy, public health and biology.

The training program at Taylor, Dr. Rediger stated, was the subject of a report in the June issue of the Bulletin of the American Institute of Biological Sciences: "An Undergraduate Program in Nuclear Technology as related to the Life Sciences."

Publisher Deplores "One-week DVBS"

WHEATON, Ill.—Dr. Victor E. Cory, president of Scripture Press, publishers of Sunday School materials, has deplored a recent trend toward favoring reduction of Daily Vacation Bible Schools from two weeks to one.

Said Dr. Cory, "A one-week school is definitely a step backward. Vacation Bible Schools present an unprecedented opportunity of reaching the children of an entire community for Christ. Two weeks are a minimum, and

1960 Conference Plans Projected

Calendars—1960 ones, that is—should be inscribed now with large red circles if you would like to be present for one or more of next year's meetings already being planned by evangelical leaders. Here are a few of the events scheduled—some of them nearly a year in advance:

January—19-21, National Religious Broadcasters, Inc., Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C.; 26-27, Evangelical Press Association, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, Minn.

April—25-29, National Association of Evangelicals' Eighteenth Annual Convention, Palmer House, Chicago.

June—14-26, Centenary General Conference of the Free Methodist Church, Winona Lake, Ind.; 19-24, Fifteenth Quadrennial International General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene, Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City, Mo.; 26-July 3, Tenth Baptist World Congress, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

July—12-15, North American Christian Convention, Columbus, Ohio.

August—2-7, World Convention Disciples of Christ, Edinburgh, Scotland; 16-21, Luther League of The American Lutheran Church constituting convention, Milwaukee, Wisc.; 17-20, World Christian Endeavor Conference, Mexico City, Mexico; 20-28, National Fellowship of Brethren Churches, Estes Park, Colo.

October—19-23, Christian Business Men's Committee International, Olympic Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii; 21-26, International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ), Louisville, Ky.

there are some pastors who feel it should be at least four weeks."

Dr. Cory indicated his surveys show that lack of teachers is the main cause for the trend toward reduction of DVBS time in some communities. Evening schools, he stated, are proving successful in all parts of North America, "especially because they reach adults and because, if held early enough in the evening, the youngest children can attend." "But evening schools should be two weeks, not one," he cautioned.

New Library Honors Late P. H. Welshimer

MILLIGAN COLLEGE, Tenn.—Construction was slated to begin recently on a new half-million-dollar library for Milligan College, Christian Church educational institution located here, announced Ray E. Stahl, executive secretary.

The library, to house 100,000 volumes and serve a potential student body of 750 students, is the gift of the T. W. Phillips, Sr. Charitable Trust and the Phillips family of Butler, Pa., in memory of the late P. H. Welshimer who served more than fifty years as minister of First Christian Church, Canton, Ohio. The new building will be called the "P. H. Welshimer Memorial Library."

sunday school

"Checkup Expedition" Is Led by Assemblies

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — "Checkup Month" was observed last month by the Assemblies of God Sunday School Department, C. W. Denton, national secretary, has reported. September, he explained, had been so designated to encourage pastors and officers to take a close look at their Sunday School.

Their "Checkup Expedition," Mr. Denton indicated, centered around a systematic search of local Sunday School activities. Each Sunday was given a special emphasis, beginning with "Explore Your Promotion" and continuing throughout the month with "Explore Your Personnel," "Explore Your Program" and "Explore Your Potential."

"Every Sunday School needs a designated time to explore its potential," Mr. Denton said. "Weak points cannot be improved unless they are recognized as such, examined, and measures taken for improvement."

National S. S. Leaders Headline Area Program

PHILADELPHIA — Sunday School leaders of national prominence will headline the program for the Fourteenth Annual Philadelphia Area Sunday School Convention to be held here November 5, 6, 7 in Bethany Temple. The gathering is under auspices of the Philadelphia Area Sunday School Association, of which Rev. Matthew E. Welde is chairman.

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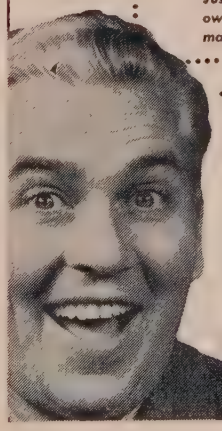

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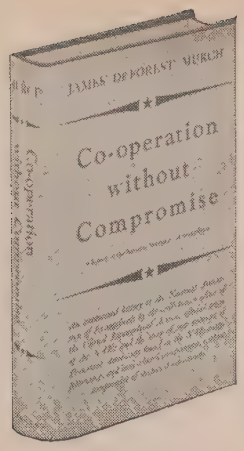

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Among the speakers will be Dr. Howard Hendricks, Dallas, Tex.; Dr. Norman Townsend, Kingston, R. I.; William Greig, Glendale, Calif.; Rev. Paul Shank, Scottdale, Pa.; Rev. Leonard G. Wymore, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Rev. Paul Roth, Masontown, Pa.

Convention plans in addition to the inspirational addresses include thirty-four workshops, eighteen conference periods, a brain-storming session, skits and a large number of exhibits of Sunday School materials.

Information concerning the meeting may be obtained from: Philadelphia Area Sunday School Association, 325 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 6, Pa.

United Action

Church Extension Seminars Planned

WHEATON, Ill.—Three seminars on Church Extension in widely separated areas are being conducted this fall by the NAE Commission on Evangelism and Church Extension, Dr. Neil Winegarden, chairman of the church extension division of the Commission announced here. Similar programs are planned for all three of the meetings.

First of the seminars will take place November 2 at King's College, Briarcliff Manor, N. Y. Dr. George L. Ford, NAE's executive director, will serve as moderator. Dr. Luther Grubb, general chairman of the Commission, will show slides and speak on "The Challenge of a Burgeoning America." A panel of local pastors will discuss "The Local Church and New Church Planting." Experts in several phases of church extension will give the seminar the benefit of their knowledge on such subjects as "Ways and Means of Financing Church Extension," "Planning the Location of the New Church," and "Plans for Constructing Evangelical Church Buildings." Rev. Albert S. Taylor, NAE director for the Eastern Region, will be in charge of local arrangements.

The other two seminars will follow the same general program as the first, using the same topics but with different personnel. At Bethel College, St. Paul, Minn., on November 9, Rev. Robert Klingberg, Home Missions secretary of the General Conference Baptists, will act as moderator. The roster of speakers, yet to be completed, will include experts in the various fields who will speak on the same topics as those under discussion at the King's College meeting. Rev. David Herwaldt of Hope Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Upper Midwest Regional president of NAE, is completing local plans for the Bethel College gathering.

The third meeting in the series is scheduled for November 10 at Grace Theological Seminary, Winona Lake, Ind., with Dr. Grubb as moderator. Keynote address will be given by NAE's field director, Rev. Mahlon L. Macy, on the same topic used by Dr. Grubb in the eastern seminar. As at the other two meetings, local pastors will discuss the local church-planting problem and experts will lend their counsel on church extension plans. "Financing" will be discussed by Mr. Horatio Chase of Chase Associates; "Planning" by Dr. Milford Eggerding of Community Planning Consultants, Valparaiso, Ind., and "Building" by Rev. Joseph Kimbel, architectural consultant for *Christian Life* magazine. Dr. Charles J. Anderson, director of NAE's Midwest Region, will be local chairman.

It is suggested by the seminar planning committee that interested persons inquire of the NAE regional offices in these areas concerning registration, accommodations and other details of the meetings.

Dr. Winegarden has indicated that three more such seminars are projected for February 1960—in the Michigan, Colorado and Southwestern areas.

Evangelicals Witness At Oregon Centennial

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Northwest Region of the National Association of Evangelicals was prominently repre-

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sented at the recent Oregon Centennial 100-day celebration here, reports Rev. Wilmer N. Brown, director of NAE's Northwest Region.

From a beautifully decorated booth, sponsored jointly by the NAE Northwest Region and the Greater Portland Association of Evangelicals, some 40,000 attractively designed brochures were distributed. These pamphlets extended a cordial invitation to the thousands in attendance at the historic Centennial to visit one of the evangelical churches in the area and also explained who evangelicals are and what they believe.

"This unique evangelical witness in the midst of the festive celebration," Mr. Brown stated, "brought to many not only their need of a personal experience with Christ but also acquainted them with the world wide ministry of the NAE in its service to ten million Bible-believing Christians with a united evangelical voice."

Cooperating with Mr. Brown in arrangements for the booth was Rev. W. M. Whitwell, president of the Greater Portland Association.

Clyde Taylor Speaker At Midwest Convention

CHICAGO—Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, NAE Secretary of Public Affairs, Washington, D. C., will be the featured speaker at the Annual Midwest Regional NAE Convention Banquet to be held this year on Friday October 23, at the Judson Baptist Church, 1252 North Austin Boulevard, Oak Park, Illinois. Announcement was made by Dr. Charles J. Anderson, director of the Midwest Region.

The afternoon session of the Convention at three o'clock will feature a Seminar on obscene literature control, under the director of the Social Action Commission of the NAE, with outstanding civic and political leaders among the speakers. The new NAE Film "The Bridge" will have its premiere midwest showing during the evening session.

WORLD-WIDE

World Vision Conferences Draw Nationalist Pastors

PASADENA, Calif.—Conferences in the Far East under auspices of World Vision, Inc., are giving evidence to the "great urgency for unity and determination in evangelizing Asia within the shortest possible time," is the view expressed by Dr. Richard Halverson, pastor of a Presbyterian church in Washington, D. C. One of a team of leading evangelicals who participated in the meetings, Dr. Halverson said that the "overwhelming" attendance of National pastors at these conferences, inaugurated several years ago "to spur a solid witness for Christ in nations rapidly closing doors to foreign missionaries," is one of the most encouraging indications of the gatherings.

In Rangoon, Burma, 815 pastors registered, fifty of whom slept on the ground, Dr. Halverson reported. In the Philippines, he said, sixteen hundred pastors attended two conferences, and in Bangkok, Thailand—a nation with only 20,000 professing Christians and twelve ordained ministers—attendance averaged 500 an evening.

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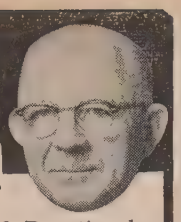

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Comments from other members of the team included these: Dr. Carl F. H. Henry, editor of *Christianity Today* —"World Vision's evangelical concern and earnestness is shaping new unity in missions for Christian witness throughout Asia." Dr. Paul S. Rees, vice-president-at-large of World Vision —"This circuit of Pastors' Conferences provides the most convincing evidence yet seen that this is the opportunity extraordinary." Dr. Kyung Chik Han, pastor of the largest Presbyterian Church in the Orient in Seoul, Korea—"It is one of the most vital spiritual movements in Asia at this crucial hour."

Dr. Bob Pierce, president of World Vision, has asked for special prayers "so these meetings will bring the glory to God for which they are intended." His conviction is growing each year, he states, that "if Asia is to be won for Christ, then Asians must do the job."

Navigators Sponsor Campaign in Japan

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—"The largest evangelistic campaign to date" on the island of Kyushu, Japan, is being conducted September 17-October 4 in Fukuoka under auspices of The Navigators, that organization's headquarters here has announced. Scene of the campaign is the 7,000-seat Downtown Sports Arena, securing of which is "an unprecedented act of faith," Navigator leaders assert, since the seating capacity is four times that ever attempted for a religious gathering on this island.

Preparations for the campaign were under direction of Hugh Harris, Navigator representative in Tokyo. Dr. David Morken, an associate evangelist with Dr. Billy Graham with headquarters in Hong Kong, was unanimously invited by the pastor of Fukuoka's thirty-eight Protestant churches to be the evangelist.

Flood Relief Groups Join Forces in Disaster

TAIWAN, Formosa—Relief workers from varied groups combined forces to bring aid to stricken families in the flood-disaster area here. Correspondent Dale McClain of Oriental Missionary Society reported that he joined with other missionaries, U. S. Marines, U. S. Navy and the government of Free China in airlifting tons of flour, rice bread and corn meal as well as medical supplies to emergency ration centers.

Missionaries of the Presbyterian churches, Christian Missions in Many Lands, Oriental Missionary Society, The Evangelical Alliance Mission, Mennonite Central Committee, United Lutheran bodies—all labored long hours delivering tons of relief materials provided by Church World Service and other organizations. On the first day of the air-lift, 260 tons of provisions, plus 600 loaves of bread direct from the U. S. aircraft carrier *Thetas Bay* were delivered to stricken areas, according to Commander John W. Crowe, executive officer of the vessel.

Government releases listed 643 dead in the disaster, 963 injured, 520 missing and 247,984 homeless or otherwise affected. A total of 28,311 homes were destroyed, the release indicated

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and 126,641 others damaged by the flood. In addition, bridges and railroads, rice paddies and crop lands were devastated, forecasting a curtailed food supply in the future.

400,000 Protestants In German Congress

MUNICH, Germany—Witnessing to the unity of their evangelical faith in a divided country, more than 400,000 Protestants attended outdoor rally here concluding the ninth German Evangelical Church Day (DEKT) Congress. In this much-bombed city of World War II the huge crowd gathered for prayer around a 120-foot steel cross.

Dr. Reinhold von Thadden-Trieglaff, president of the DEKT movement, told the audience that "the Church's impact on the world can only be as great as the total sum of responsible Christians who witness to their faith in every day life." Dr. Reimer Mager of Dresden, Soviet Zone, DEKT vice president, said, "If we are God's people we are freest among all men regardless of where we live, but if we are not we are slaves wherever we live and however loud we praise our freedom."

Earlier at an evangelistic meeting, Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin, head of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKID), denounced the continued curtailment of personal freedom by East German Communists.

Greetings to the closing rally were brought by an American theologian who has lived and worked in Germany for several years—Dr. Frank Littel, now a lecturer in church history at Atlanta (Ga.) University. A question-and-answer session broadcast over loudspeakers stressed the importance of the Congress theme, "Ye Shall Be My People," for a divided country. The session also dealt with Protestant—Catholic cooperation and summarized conclusions reached by workshops which explored church, political, family, community, vocational and social problems in the light of the evangelical faith.

Film Censorship Imposed in Bangkok

BANGKOK, Thailand—(FENS)—Thailand's cabinet has decided to impose stricter censorship on imported and Siamese films to play down sex and hooliganism. The decision was part of a Government drive to clean up Bangkok, not long ago the Asian center of pornographic movies. Just how stringent the projected censorship will be has not been announced.

American films are popular here, and so far have largely escaped the censor's scissors. Hailing the censorship decision, the newspaper *Voice of Angthong* called the Marlon Brando picture, "The Wild One," a prime example of hooliganism. "This may not have had a bad influence on the young people in the United States, but it was bad for young people in Thailand," the paper said.

Israel-American School Launches First Course

JERUSALEM—Classes in the newly established Institute of Biblical Studies sponsored by the Israel-American Institute of Biblical Studies, opened here August 31 (see *Action* August 1959).

Dr. G. Douglas Young of Trinity Seminary, Chicago, who directs the project, arrived at Lydda airport with Mrs. Young; a dozen students; Professor Arnold C. Schultz of Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Ky.; Professor G. Herbert Livingston of Northern Baptist Seminary, Chicago, and Mr. Charles Woehrle, member of the Israel-American board. They were welcomed by Dr. Colbi of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and escorted to Jerusalem.

A reception in honor of Dr. Young and his party was given by Rev. and Mrs. Leigh Irish of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, at which the students and faculty members met many of the leaders of the Christian and Jewish communities of Jerusalem, including government officials, President Mazar of the Hebrew University, representatives of Hadassah and administrative officers of the YMCA. Members of the party also met Dr. Nelson Glueck of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio, who invited the students to participate in the lectures and classes of his Jerusalem School of Archeology which will open in 1960. A typical reaction of the students: "Touring in the Holy City and work on an actual excavation is an educational experience of a lifetime—

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PRESS

Moody Offers Free Home Study Course

CHICAGO—Local churches all over the nation are now able to offer a free home Bible study course in their visitation outreach. In a new community evangelism program recently announced by Moody Bible Institute's correspondence school, its basic salvation course was made available for this use.

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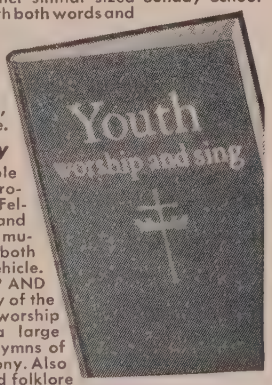

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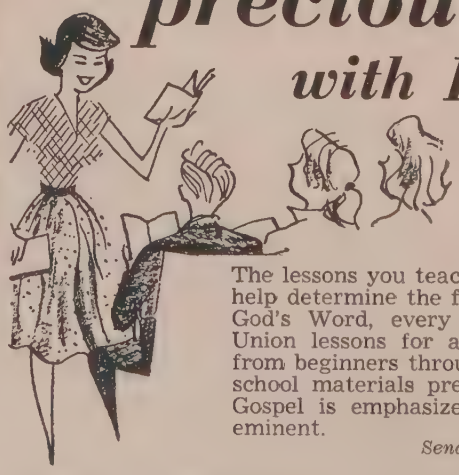

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Mennonite Encyclopedia Releases Fourth Volume

BLUFFTON, Ohio—The fourth and final volume of *The Mennonite Enclopedia* was released here during the recent Centennial sessions of the Conference. Dr. Cornelius Krahn, associate editor, spoke on the significance of the publication.

Launched in 1946, the first three volumes appeared in 1955, 1956 and 1957. The *Encyclopedia* is a joint production of the three largest Mennonite bodies in America. Cooperating in the project were Mennonite Publishing House, Scottdale, Pa.; the Mennonite Publication Office, Newton, Kans., and the Mennonite Brethren Publishing House, Hillsboro, Kans. Editor of the volumes is Dean Harold S. Bender of Goshen (Ind.) College Biblical Seminary; associate editor, Dr. Krahn of Bethel College, North Newton, Kans., and managing editor, Dr. Melvin Gingerich, research director of the Mennonite Research Foundation at Goshen. Assisting them were ten editors in Europe, Canada and the United States, and an editorial council of more than forty men in eight countries gave guidance in the planning and writing of the work.

The four volumes of this prodigious effort report on Mennonites with detailed articles on their history, their principles, activities, institutions, culture and practices. More than 2,000 writers have contributed articles, and almost 14,000 subjects are covered. The *Encyclopedia,* its editors say, is the first reference work in English that covers comprehensively more than 400 years of history, faith, life and culture of Anabaptism in Europe and world Mennonitism.

Osservatore Warns Program Unchanged

VATICAN CITY—(RNS)—*Osservatore Romano,* Vatican City daily newspaper, issued a strong warning here against any hopes that Christians in Russia are facing "better times."

The paper said that it would be "a mistake to believe" that the Communist uncompromising attitude toward religion has ended and that a period of "tolerance" has begun.

It added that the Communist program remains unchanged and the only question is what new methods the Reds will use.

The Scripture Union Incorporates in U. S.

HAVERTOWN, Pa.—The Scripture Union, said by officials to be the largest and best-known daily Bible reading plan, and the only such system which offers graded Bible reading and graded expositional and devotional comments on the reading for every age group, has been incorporated in the United States with its headquarters located here.

Chairman of the U. S. Committee is Mr. C. Stacey Woods, General Secretary of both the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and the International

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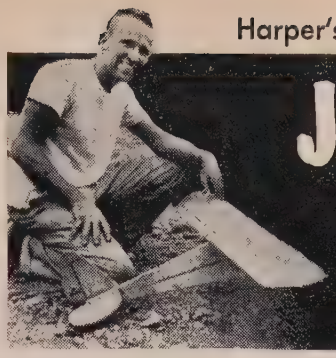

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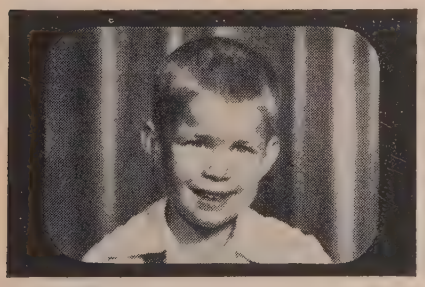

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Fellowship of Evangelical Students. Rev. Gerald Gregson, an evangelical Anglican minister, who served as Chief of Chaplains of the Royal Air Force in Canada during World War II, will be on the American staff. Mr. Gregson is a well-known evangelist and Bible Conference speaker, and will be available for Bible Conference work and special speaking engagements beginning this fall. The Scripture Union began in England in 1879, and its daily Bible reading plan is now translated into more than 100 languages.

Further information concerning the Scripture Union and for speaking engagements for Mr. Gregson may be obtained by writing to The Scripture Union, 2136 Darby Road, Haverton, Pennsylvania.

New Life of Christ Most Costly Movie

NEW YORK — (EP) — Parliament Pictures Corporation, a new independent film company, has announced plans for the most costly motion picture of all time—a $30,000,000 production of the life of Christ.

Inspiration for the film ("The Son of God") came from a Billy Graham sermon in Dallas, Texas, said William Free, board chairman for the film company, in announcing the plans. Free stated that one third of the profits will go to charities and religious organizations, many of which have "pre-endorsed" the script.

Simultaneous openings are scheduled for Christmas Week, 1960, in New York, Paris, Rome, London, Madrid, Jerusalem and Hollywood.

The $30,000,000 total tops the $15,000,000 budget for "Ben Hur" recently completed in Italy. "The Ten Commandments," produced three years ago, came to $13,000,000.

Protestant Press Month Announced by EPA Executive

LOS ANGELES—Protestant Press Month is scheduled for October, Larry Ward, executive secretary of Evangelical Press Association, reported here. "This is one of those rare opportunities," said Mr. Ward, "when we are able to emphasize the ministry of this great field and focus prayer attention in general upon the importance of the printed page."

A special EPA Press Month Packet has been prepared and mailed out to members of the Association. It contains several thought-provoking articles, such as: "You and Christian Literature," by Dr. Robert Walker, editor of *Christian Life;* a guest editorial from the pen of Dr. A. W. Tozer, editor of *The Alliance Witness;* special photos and cartoons provided by Roy B. Wolfe of *World Vision Magazine;* and some "up-to-the-minute slants" by EPA President Mel Larson and Mr. Ward—the latter just returned from a six-months' tour on which he visited twenty-three countries.

For complete information on Protestant Press Month inquiries may be addressed to: Mr. Larry Ward, Box 41076, Los Angeles 41, Calif.

public affairs

Graham Speaks On Racial Tensions

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—Evangelist Billy Graham said here he is "convinced that racial tension in many Northern cities is far greater than anywhere in the South." I am equally convinced that race relations "ultimately will be better in the South than in the North," he stated. He was here to address an Asheville high school student body.

Commenting on recent juvenile gang murders in New York, Mr. Graham said if the violence had occurred in a Southern city "there would have been an outcry for federal troops." The evangelist, who conducted a major crusade in New York in 1957, reported a number of ministers there have told

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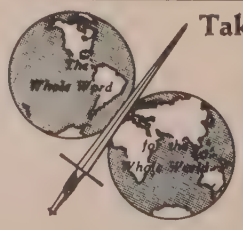

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him recently the city is a "racial tinderbox." He asserted that if Southerners will avoid "flag waving, inflammatory statements and above all, violence," the forces of moderation will eventually prevail throughout the South.

Noting that the South already is in the midst of a "tremendous sociological change," he said he was delighted to see that the Supreme Court's public school desegregation ruling "is being obeyed peacefully almost everywhere this year."

Deterrents to Obscenity Suggested by Post Office

WASHINGTON—The Post Office drive to stamp out the mailing of obscene materials to children is receiving widespread support from the press, radio and TV commentators, public-spirited organizations and Members of Congress, the Post Office Department reports.

Says Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield: "We are most gratified by the whole-hearted editorial support being accorded by the press. This, with the active national and community leadership being given the program by the Members of Congress, by civic and religious organizations, and by the postmasters of the nation, makes certain the importance of this problem is being brought home to the parents of America."

Some concrete suggestions (briefly stated) of what parents and interested citizens may do to help wipe out this highly lucrative racket are offered by the Post Office Department:

1. Parents can promptly put in the hands of the local Postmaster any obscene material or solicitations for purchase of obscene literature and photographs received through the mail.
2. Parents can join with other parents, teachers, local law enforcement officers and civic groups in drawing public attention to the menace of this traffic in filth.
3. Parents can work closely with teachers to detect obscene materials in possession of children and determine source of supply.
4. Parents and teachers can impress upon the community the fact that even children never exposed to the obscene-material may be victimized by sex criminals whose minds have been debauched by it.
5. Parents can cooperate with the schools in helping their children develop wholesome interests in good literature and art.
6. Civic groups can bring about the establishment of a decent literature committee and assist it in implementing an effective program of public education and cooperation with law enforcement officials.

Prayer Appeal Precedes Russian Leader's Visit

LOS ANGELES—Just prior to Soviet Premier Khrushchev's U. S. visit, a special "prayer appeal" went out to 5,000 evangelical churches in the Pacific Southwest. Authored by a committee of Rev. Ben A. Jennings, Dr. Robert Schaper and Dr. Walter Penner for the Pacific Southwest Regional of the National Association of Evangelicals, the appeal declared:

"On this visit, the powerful, atheistic leaders could come the nearest of his

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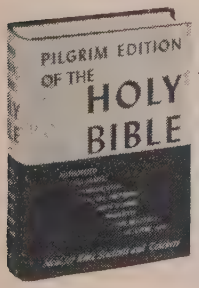

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"Accordingly, we call upon all churches to observe a special emphasis on prayer for the following three objectives:

"1. That the Gospel of Christ might somehow get through to Khrushchev during his American tour.

"2. That American leaders may be given wisdom from God in the course of their discussions with the man.

"3. That the easing of world tensions and the cause of world peace might be furthered at this time, in keeping with I Timothy 2:1-6."

Anti-Obscenity Bill Is Passed by House

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(RNS)—The House passed by a voice vote and sent to the Senate a bill to strengthen the anti-obscenity statutes of the nation's capital.

Introduced by Rep. John Dowdy (D.-Tex.), the bill would allow District law enforcement authorities to seize any money or equipment used in the propagation of smut. It also would provide a fine of up to $500, or a year's imprisonment, or both, for convicted producers or peddlers of pornography. The measure would declare any building used for distributing or selling obscene publications, or displaying or selling lewd motion pictures or recordings to be a public nuisance.

Hawaiian Congressmen Active Church Laymen

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(EP)—When the 50th state chose its representatives to Congress, it named three active laymen from Christian churches. This is considered unusual in that Hawaii is the only state in which non-Christian faiths can claim a majority.

Senator Oren E. Long (Dem.) is active in the Disciples of Christ . . . once considered being a minister . . . often fills church pulpits.

Rep. Daniel K. Inouye (Dem.) is an active Methodist, named after a missionary who befriended his mother years ago.

Sen. Hiram L. Fong (Rep.) serves as a trustee of the First Chinese Christian Church of Honolulu (United Church of Christ).

Governor William Quinn is a Roman Catholic. So is the man whom he defeated in Hawaii's first gubernatorial balloting, John Burns.

Predominant religion in the Islands is Buddhism. There are also many Shintoists, Taoists and Confucianists, placing the so-called "Asian faiths" in the majority.

Inter-church

Baptist Bodies Lead In Washington Area

WASHINGTON—The Nation's capital has 518 places of worship, a census taken by the National Capital Area Council of Churches here disclosed.

However, the metropolitan area of Washington now has 1,251 churches and synagogues.

Approximately 60 per cent of the 2,200,000 residents of the Washington area live in Maryland and Virginia suburbs which surround the capital city.

The capital itself has 451 Protestant

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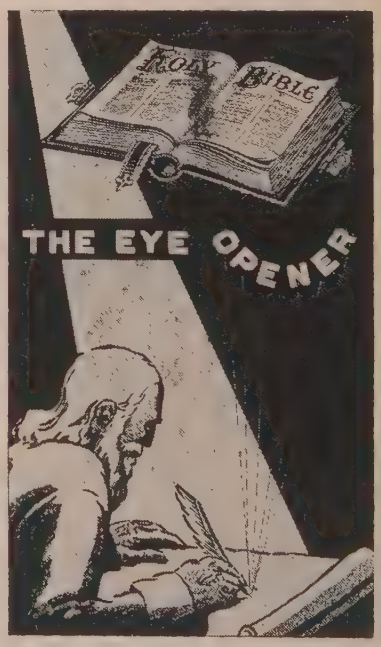

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churches, 41 Roman Catholic and seven Eastern Orthodox. It has 16 Jewish synagogues, one Mosque, one Buddhist and one Hindu house of worship.

In the Washington metropolitan area, there are 1,108 Protestant churches, 106 Roman Catholic churches, and 26 Jewish synagogues.

The survey showed that nine Baptist bodies have a total of 300 churches in the national capital area. Methodists are second in number with seven Methodist bodies claiming 243 churches. Disciples of Christ have 23.

World Council Votes $900,000 to Churches

RHODES, Greece—(EP)—The central committee of the World Council of Churches, meeting here on August 27, decided to spend $500,000 on its own causes in the year ahead and to earmark $900,000 to aid churches and refugees around the world.

It was disclosed that almost 75 per cent of World Council contributions in 1958 came from the United States. The Methodist Church in America alone contributed nearly 20 per cent of the total 1958 gifts, almost as much as the total gifts from all church bodies outside the United States.

In their major resolutions, the 72 delegates from 24 countries:

Agreed to hold a debate next year on the subject of religious freedom in Roman Catholic countries, such as Spain and Colombia. . . .

Encouraged the development of contacts between the World Council and the Russian Orthodox Church. . . .

Appealed for urgent negotiation for peaceful settlement of the Algerian crisis. . . .

Elected six co-presidents: the Very Rev. John Baille, principal of New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland; Presiding Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri of the Methodist Church in Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia; Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin, head of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKID); Metropolitan Mar Thoma Juhanon of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar; Archbishop Iakovos, head of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America; and former Presiding Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S.A.

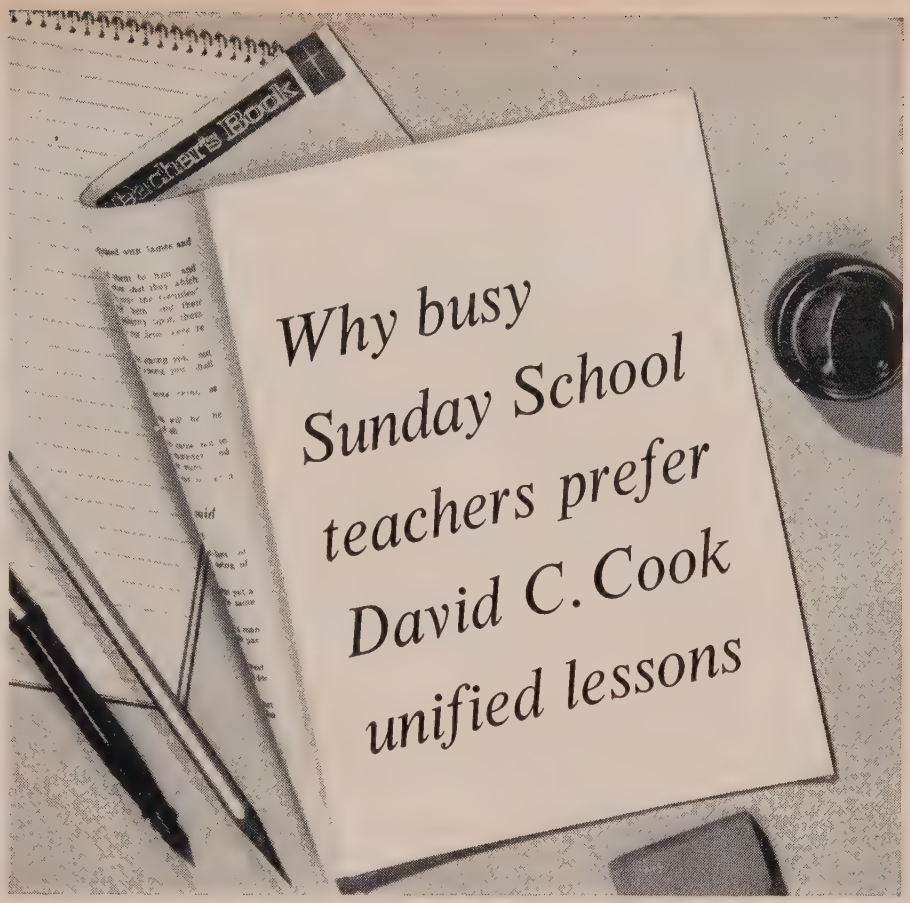
And called upon the U.S., Great Britain, Russia and the U.N. General Assembly not to continue nuclear tests.

Two prelates of the Russian Orthodox Church attended the Rhodes sessions, and a message was received from Metropolitan Nikolai of Moscow in which the Russian leader declared, "We must rise above the political contradictions of our times."

Radio-TV

TV Evangelism Series Planned by SBC Leaders

FORT WORTH, Tex.—The 1960 Televangelism series sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio-Television Commission will be inaugurated January 3 and run for thirteen weeks ending March 27, SBC officials have announced. Nucleus of next year's series will be titled "The Answer" and will be carried by more than one hundred stations.



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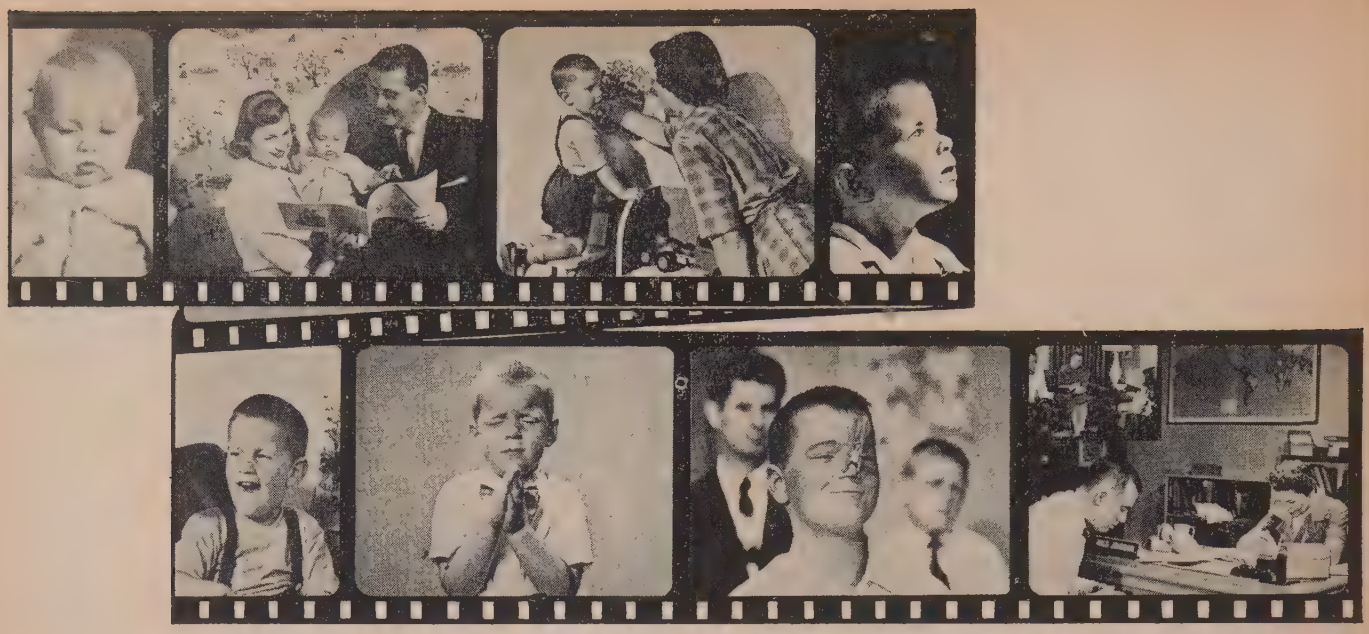

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Lutheran Hour In 27th Season

ST. LOUIS—The Lutheran Hour began its twenty-seventh season of radio ministry last month. With an estimated weekly audience of 25,000,000 persons, the program is said to be the world's largest non-government broadcasting operation. Its messages are adapted and translated for broadcast into more than one hundred lands, to each in its own language.

With the opening of the new season Dr. Oswand Hoffman began his fifth year as The Lutheran Hour speaker. On the broadcast for Sunday, September 27, Dr. Hoffman told his audience: "Faith without risk is no faith at all. People risk their lives on everything else—summit conferences, stock market, starting their own business, but they will not take a risk on God." "Actually," he insisted, "faith in God is the only risk in the world on a sure thing." Following his message, Dr. Hoffman resumed his question-and-answer counseling session which has become a popular feature of the broadcast during the past three years.

Stereophonic Broadcast Originates from Church

DALLAS, Tex.—What is believed by local broadcasting and church officials to be the first stereophonic broadcast of a church service is originating every fourth Sunday from First Baptist Church here. Two Dallas stations, KIXL radio and WFAA television, are cooperating in making the unique service possible, said Jack Bird, chairman of the church public address committee.

More than $10,000 worth of sound equipment has been installed by the church to handle its broadcast and audio-visual ministry, Mr. Bird revealed. He voiced also the belief that the improved sound-visual presentation "will add to the realism of the service and help further the radio-television Christian ministry."

First Church, with a membership of 11,800, is acclaimed as the largest Southern Baptist Church in the world. Pastor is Dr. W. A. Criswell.

14,000,000 Radios Reached Over Japan's 88 Stations

TOKYO—According to recently released figures, there are now about 14 million radios in Japan with an estimated five listeners to each set. Projecting these figures, this means that 80 per cent of Japan's total population of 91,000,000 potentially can be reached via Christian radio broadcasting.

The Pacific Broadcasting Association headed by Rev. Akira Hatori as chairman, claims a total listening audience of between 5 and 6 million people on its Gospel broadcasts over 57 of the 88 radio stations in the land of Nippon. (EP)

ASSEMBLIES

Disciples Endorse Visit Of Premier Khrushchev

DENVER, Colo. —(RNS)— Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's visit to the U.S. and President Eisenhower's reciprocal trip to Russia were hailed by the International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of

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Christ) as potential contributions to world peace. A resolution adopted by the convention at its annual meeting here described the exchange of visits "as a step toward bridging the chasm of suspicion and mistrust which has recently existed between the U.S. and the Soviet Union."

The resolution put the Disciples on record as being the first major Protestant denomination in this country to give specific endorsement to Mr. Khrushchev's visit.

In an address entitled "The Past Is But Prologue," Dr. Perry Epler Gresham, president of Bethany (W. Va.) College, challenged the 9,000 delegates to enormously increased activity in Christian evangelism, Christian thought and Christian influence. "The day for paltry and picayune missions is over," he admonished the delegates. "The challenge of our modern world demands a response in big and effective terms." Dr. Gresham expressed disappointment in the small scope of Christian missions compared with Communist and other claims on men's minds.

Dr. Loren E. Lair of Des Moines, executive secretary of the Iowa Society of Christian Churches, was elected president of the International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) at its annual meeting here. Secretary of the group since 1948, Dr. Lair succeeds Dr. John Paul Pack of Seattle, Wash. Elected first, second and third vice-presidents respectively were: the Rev. Robert E. Jarman, minister of N. C.; Mrs. Rex A. Bicks of Regina, Sask., Canada; and Rhodes E. Rule of Los Angeles, Cal. Dr. Gaines M. Cook of Indianapolis, Ind., serving a six-year term, remains as executive secretary. William L. Jones of Louisville, Ky., was named treasurer; and Miss Gertrude Dimke of Indianapolis, recording secretary.

Scientific Advances And Emotional Fear

OCEAN GROVE, N. J.—(RNS)—Methodist Bishop W. Angie Smith of Oklahoma City told more than 7,000 persons of various denominations at a preaching service during the 90th anniversary Ocean Grove Campmeeting here that a tendency to forget the past is the greatest danger in the modern world. "Scientific developments have created an emotional fear," he said. "People are concerned only with the future."

Speaking on "The Strength of Yesterday," the bishop asserted that despite scientific advances man has never been able to surpass the Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes. "These are the great teachings of the past on which we must build the future," he declared.

The large attendance was indicative to observers that the century-old campmeeting tradition of American Protestantism survives strongly today. A highlight preceeding the opening of the week-long campmeeting was a communion service attended by 1,200 worshippers and led by 16 ministers.

Other program features of the week at this famous Christian seaside resort included young people's meetings, Bible classes, beach services, an organ recital and the annual concert of the Ocean Grove Auditorium Choir. Chartered to promote the spiritual, physical and cultural aims of "members and friends of The Methodist Church," the Ocean Grove Campmeeting Association

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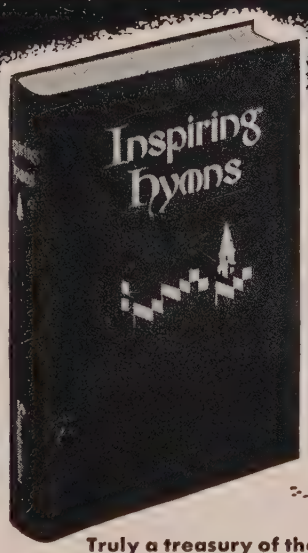

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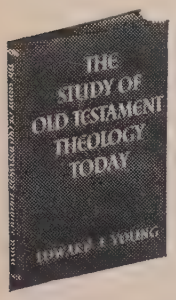

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Congregationalists Hold Eleventh Annual Meeting

CARLISLE, Mass.—The Eleventh Annual Meeting of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference recently drew Conservative Congregational Christians from all over the country to Argos, Ind., Rev. Robert Dempsy, executive secretary, reported here.

The sessions were marked by better attendance and progress than any other annual sessions in the history of the Conference, Mr. Dempsy said, and the total number of Conference Churches was increased by the addition of historic Park Street Church, Boston, and the Congregational Church of Eastford, Conn. Greetings were sent from the Convention to Conservative Congregational churches in both Hawaii and Brazil.

Officers for the coming year are: Rev. George Kirgiss of Touchet, Wash., president; Dr. Henri Pol of St. Paul, Minn., first vice-president; Rev. Richard Roberts of Portland, Ore., second vice-president; Rev. Robert Dempsey of Carlisle, Mass., executive secretary; Rev. Lester Felker of Polk, Neb., recording secretary; Rev. Paul Halbert of Argos, Ind., treasurer. New board members with three-year terms are: Rev. Alfred Abrahamson of Portland, Ore.; Rev. John Clymer of West Andover, Ohio, and Mr. Florn Johnson of North Collins, New York.

MISSIONS

Eighth ELO Conference Slated for Pinebrook Camp

WHEATON, Ill.—Evangelical Literature Overseas, which has its headquarters here, has announced its Eighth Annual Conference for November 30-December 3, at Pinebrook Camp, near Stroudsburg, Pa., about ninety miles from Philadelphia and also from New York City.

"A program such as this should be attractive to both old and new missionaries," was the comment of Dr. Kenneth N. Taylor, chairman of the Eighth Annual Conference Planning Committee. Daily inspirational Bible messages will be brought by Dr. C. Torrey, pastor Calvary Independent Church, Lancaster, Pa. Special features will be a debate, "Resolved, That It Is Practical for an Overseas Literature Ministry to Become Indigenous," and a dramatization, " A Literature Committee preparing to Publish a New Manuscript."

Among the thirty-five speakers and instructors at the conference will be Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, executive secretary of the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, who will bring the keynote address: "The All-Purpose Tool." Others include Trevor R. Shaw, editor ENVOL; Raymond J. Davis, field director, Sudan Interior Mission; E. W. Fisch, executive secretary Japan Sunday School Union; Russell T. Hitt, editor *Eternity* magazine, and Philip E. Armstrong, executive secretary, Far Eastern Gospel Crusade. Rev. Harold B. Street, executive secretary of ELO, will give a report on his travels in a series of literature conferences in the Orient.

Program and full information concerning the ELO Conference may be obtained by writing the headquarters office, 1825 College Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois.

Mexican Orphanage Has Full-time Head

ACAPULCO, Mexico—The Board of Directors of the Latin American Orphanage here recently elected a full-time president to direct its ministry to homeless Mexican youngsters. He is the Rev. Floyd L. Hawkins who, until Aug. 2, was pastor of The People's Church of Fresno, Calif.

The 10-year-old "Orfanatorio Latino Americano" is Mexico's largest Protestant orphanage. Located on 425 fertile acres, a land-grant from a Mexican army general, it carries on a program of agricultural, educational and spiritual training for 70 orphans from five southern-most Mexican states. The orphanage extends its ministry to 90 other Mexican children who attend the orphans' school on the premises and has been responsible for establishing 19 preaching points in the state of Guerrero.

"Mexico has never had a general revival," President Hawkins points out, "though its evangelical element is constantly increasing. We believe that our humanitarian efforts are a means to that end—the evangelization of the Mexican people." (EP)

WGM Sponsors National Meeting

CANTON, Ohio—The National Missionary Convention under sponsorship of World Gospel Mission will be held here October 14-18 at First Christian Church.

More than thirty missionaries are expected to be present, coming from Kenya Colony and Belgian Congo, Africa; India; Bolivia; American Indian Field; Honduras; Mexico; Mexican Border; Peniel Rescue Missions and other World Gospel Mission fields.

Among the speakers will be Dr. George R. Warner, Marion, Ind., president of WGM; Dr. Harold J. Ockenga, pastor of Park Street Church, Boston, Mass.; Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, Washington, D. C., executive secretary of Evangelical Foreign Missions Association; Dr. John R. Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., Methodist evangelist; Rev. James Lentz, director of WGM's Lifeline Radio Broadcasts; Dr. Robert Walker, Chicago, Ill., editor of *Christian Life,* and Dr. C. I. Armstrong, WGM missionary evangelist.

Requests for information should be sent to World Gospel Mission, Box 949, Marion, Ind.

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Livingstone Diaries Featured in ABS Film

NEW YORK CITY—"Footsteps of Livingstone" is the title of a new film on Africa to be released this fall by the American Bible Society.

The 28-minute film in technicolor, planned to coincide with the ABS 1959-60 study theme on Africa, uses the diaries of the famed London missionary, David Livingstone, to tie together the habits of the nineteenth and twentieth century. The motion picture shows how the American Bible Society, in cooperation with related organizations and missionary efforts, is overcoming some of the complexities involved in transmitting the Scriptures to native villages, to wandering tribes and the ancient communities of river people.

Information on booking the film may be secured from the Audio-Visual Department of the American Bible Society, 440 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y.

UWM Sponsors Film Festival

DAYTON, Ohio—The Fourth Annual Winona Lake Film Festival sponsored by the United World Mission located here has announced this year's awards. Dramatic Division honors were won by the Conservative Baptist Foreign Missionary Society for its film "Jade For the Master." In its Documentary Division, "Hope of the Nations," produced for the Assemblies of God Foreign Mission Department, received the award.

The film showings were held each afternoon, August 3-6, in the lounge of the Winona Hotel. These showings were open to the public. A panel of five jurors evaluated the fifteen films by twelve missionary organizations.

The 1960 Missionary Film Festival will be held August 1-6. All films of foreign missionary content that have not been previously entered and which are less than 3 years old are eligible for entry in 1960.

The film festival was a feature of the 13th annual conference of the United World Mission. In the conference itself, approval was voted for the immediate sailing of eight missionaries and their nine children, for the appointment of eighteen missionary candidates for six fields, and for the establishment of an orientation program for missionary appointees at mission headquarters in Dayton.

During the conference, a new film—"The Young Doctor Goes Home"—was presented in the Billy Sunday Tabernacle. It is the story of Dr. S. Robert Correll, son of UWM Director Dr. Sidney Correll, telling of his life on the mission field in West Africa and his tragic death in an accident there. The young doctor had appeared on the platform of the Tabernacle in 1955, just before going out as a medical missionary. (EP)

Literacy Expert Launches "Dollar a Week" Program

WASHINGTON — Through EFMA News Service here it has been reported that Dr. Frank C. Laubach, world renowned literacy expert, has launched a plan which he hopes will bring in funds for thousands of technical missionaries to work in the fields of literacy, journalism, agriculture or other technical skills.

The plan does not call for new agencies to be formed, but for a hundred Christians in a church or town to band together and each give an extra dollar per week to support a new technical missionary going out under an existing agency.

Dr. Laubach challenges people with the fact that if forty million persons would cooperate in this plan funds could be provided to send out as many as 200,000 technicians to the mission fields.

Personalia

C. C. Burnett, national secretary of the Assemblies of God Education Department for the past year and former vice president of Central Bible Institute, Springfield, Mo., has resigned to accept the presidency of Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, Calif. Dr. Burnett is well known throughout the country for his service as secretary of the National Association of Evangelicals, treasurer of the North American

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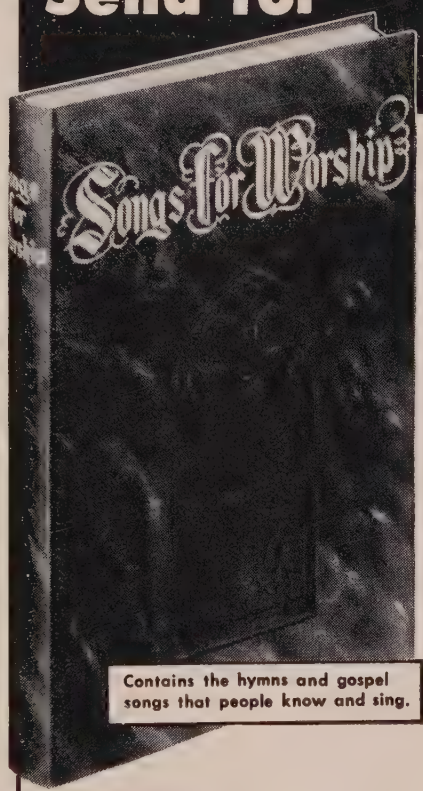

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Haldor Lillenas, well-known gospel song writer, Pasadena, Calif., died of a heart attack while at his vacation cottage in Aspen, Colo. Until his retirement, Dr. Lillenas was manager and music editor of the Lillenas Publishing Company, Kansas City, Mo. Some of the more than 3,000 gospel songs from his pen are "Wonderful Peace," "Living Forever," and "Jesus Will Walk With Me."

Charles Adrian Heaton, professor of Christian Education at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, will assume office this fall in his newly elected position as president of California Baptist Theological Seminary, Covina, Calif.

J. M. Dawson, 80, retired minister and church executive well known as the first executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, and one of the founders of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Washington, D. C., was honored with the first Texas Baptist Elder Statesman Award. The award, sponsored by the Independence (Tex.) Homecoming Association and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was presented at the annual meeting of the Independence Association by Dr. W. R. White, president of Baylor University.

G. Aiken Taylor, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, La., has succeeded Dr. Henry B. Dendy as editor of **The Southern Presbyterian Journal.** Dr. Dendy will continue as managing editor and Drs. Wade Smith and L. Nelson Bell in their posts as associate editors.

V. Lavell Seats, head of the Department of Missions of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri, has been in Africa during the summer "on loan" to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Team. A veteran of fifteen years' missionary service in Nigeria for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, he has been laying plans for a series of meetings which Evangelist Graham plans to hold in Africa next year.

Edward D. Simpson and his wife, Frances F. Simpson, have joined the faculty of Fort Wayne (Ind.) Bible College—he as associate professor of Bible and Theology and Mrs. Simpson associate professor of Christian Education. Their most recent previous field of service was Buffalo (N. Y.) Bible Institute.

Wilbur Nelson, who has been on the air for several years with "The Morning Chapel Hour," has resigned as pastor of Grace Church in Huntington, Calif., to devote full time to his radio ministry.

Clyde W. Meadows, pastor of King Street United Brethren Church, Chambersburg, Pa., has been elected president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. Dr. Meadows is fifth in the line of persons who have served in this honored (non-salaried) position. Preceding him were Dr. Francis E. Clark, founder; Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Dr. Ernest R. Bryan and Dr. Earl W. Gates.

Raymond T. Brock, former instructor at Southwestern Bible Institute, has been named editor of departmental publications for Assemblies of God Foreign Missions Department, Springfield, Mo.

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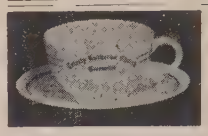

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VIEWPOINT by the editor

The Conflict of the Ages

JUDGING FROM SOME OF the things we've been reading recently, we need either to add a new word to our dictionary or revise the definition of one. The definition that may need revising is that of "war." A standard dictionary says that it is "a contest, as between nations or states, carried on by force and with arms."

For a decade now we've been in a contest between nations, but the shooting that has erupted has been so sporadic and localized that we've even shied away from the word "war" and used such mild terms as "police action" to describe it. The popular phrase, "cold war," was coined to describe the half-way state between peace and a "shooting" war—a war of nerves that has gripped the world for the past ten years.

But these are static words and do not describe adequately the intense struggle that is now going on between the Communists and the Free World. Although the conflict may be of a different nature than that to which we generally apply the word "war," it is nonetheless true that resting on the outcome of this struggle—call it "cold war" or what you will—is the future of the world.

A Foreign Service officer said recently, "We are at war now!" This man has been dealing for years with low-level Soviet diplomats and he believes that the present state of international nervous frustration is tailor-made in the Kremlin. It fits perfectly Communist strategy. "Two things the Kremlin's masters don't want," he said, "are all-out war or all-out peace. They'll feint to keep us off balance."

One reason why our terminology is all wrong is that the sterile phrases which have been attached to the present conflict have lulled the American public into a feeling of false security by implying that there is nothing to get excited about. The words themselves express the idea that we can keep up our policy of containment for an indefinite period without suffering any loss. The truth of the matter is that we haven't and can't. Our policy of containment hasn't contained anything.

Here is the evidence: At the beginning of the 19th century, one European in seven was a Russian or under Moscow's rule. At the beginning of the 20th century, one European in four was under Moscow rule. At the middle of the 20th century, one European in two is under Russian rule and the ratio for the rest of the world is just slightly less than that!

Perhaps one of the reasons why we are having trouble adjusting our minds to the type of war which the Russians are waging is that we fail to recognize that this is basically a spiritual conflict. It is light against darkness, Christ against a new incarnation of the anti-Christ spirit which has manifested itself in a different form in every generation. In this magazine two months ago John Noble said "the Communists have Satan on their side to teach them his methods of intrigue and deceit."

The Foreign Service officer quoted earlier said regarding the complacency of the American people: "Nobody—even those in high places—seems able to grasp the fact that this idea of world conquest is a matter of religion with Kremlin leaders."

The Soviets don't want "all-out war," he believes, because they are convinced they can conquer the U.S. without such a war.

Vice President Nixon said much the same thing in a speech on August 25 before the American Legion Convention in Minneapolis:

"I have just returned from the Soviet Union where I had the opportunity to speak at length with Mr. Khrushchev and to appraise the present tactics and strategy of the world Communist movement. On the basis of that visit, I can say unequivocally that the only significant change in Communist tactics since the death of Stalin is that Mr. Khrushchev and other Communist leaders now say they will accomplish their objective of world domination without resort to war."

No American—and especially a Christian—should ever let a change in Communist strategy cause him to drop his guard. The ultimate purposes of the Satanic powers are still the conflict of the ages, even though we may not have the foresight to call it by its right name.

These lines, written by James Mumme, a missionary to Bolivia, express the choices:

A naked arm cocked back, with fist clenched tight,
Defies the world and menaces all men.
The symbol of Red Communism's might
Enslaves and threatens, kills and wreaks mayhem.

The arm of God is gentle, reaching down
With open hand to welcome, help, and lift.
In love it waits, inviting. Peace profound
Is offered; pardon, fellowship its gift.

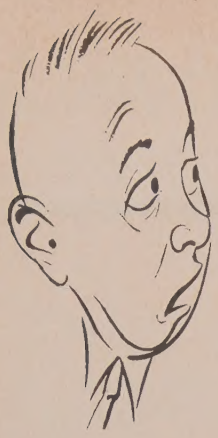
Invested in each arm, terrific power
Is working in the world. Mankind much choose;
Express its preference for God, or grimly cower
And grovel, suffering slavery and abuse.

Mankind must choose! There is no middle ground.
The violence of Communistic hates
Consumes each people which, to God unbound
Ignores the danger and procrastinates.

Time to Act

THE CORPORATE WITNESS of evangelicals in America through the National Association of Evangelicals is becoming increasingly effective. After 17 years, NAE is taking on maturity. The voice that was first ignored by the liberals, then derided, is now respected.

If you are an evangelical and you belong to an evangelical church, your affiliation with NAE will add to the strength of its testimony. To put it bluntly, you are needed—now, perhaps, more than ever. "NAE Week" which occurs this month would be an ideal time to do that "something about it" that you have been contemplating.



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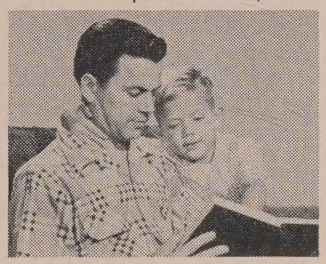

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ASK DOCTOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dr. Clate A. Risley, executive secretary of the National Sunday School Association, will answer your questions on the Sunday School. Address him 542 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago 5, Illinois. All communications will be answered but only such answers as may be of general interest will appear in this column.

What Is Perfect Attendance?

Sounds like a silly question and the answer is almost as silly, for perfect attendance is **perfect attendance** and nothing more nor less.

Many churches across the land have had a system whereby there can be a certain number of absences and still be counted perfect attendance. Some say two, others even as many as four.

The most usual excuse for such illogical reasoning is illness. After all a child can't help it if he is sick. Others even add vacation—as if we should take a vacation from God, church, or Sunday School.

Now, perfect attendance does not necessarily mean attendance in the same church building, department, and class. Summertime may take families far and wide, but they can and should be in Sunday School every Sunday, and must be if they are to have perfect attendance.

The best way to know this is being cared for in a business-like way is to provide the pupil with a card that the Sunday School teacher in the church visited can sign signifying the presence of the pupil. This should be done for all students and not only in the children's departments.

Now what about sickness? No one wants to be sick and no one wants a sick person to be in Sunday School for his sake or others, but Christians above all people should be realistic and willing to face facts.

Lastly, the very practice of awarding pins for perfect attendance when there has not been perfect attendance teaches in reverse the entire concept of Christianity. It is not theologically sound. It borders on a little "grey lie."

There is no such practice in the public school, industry, or business. If you are there you are and if you are not, you are not. Business generally allows a certain amount of time for sick leave but they mark you down as ill and absent.

WHAT ABOUT AWARDING PINS FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE?

It is a very fine practice and one that should be encouraged but one that should be taken seriously by teacher, parent and secretary.

The records of the Sunday School must be accurate and the final authority on perfect attendance. This ought to help every secretary to realize the tremendous importance of his position.

An incorrect record can mean a marred life if the pupil feels an injustice has been done. It can mean loss to Sunday School, church and God.

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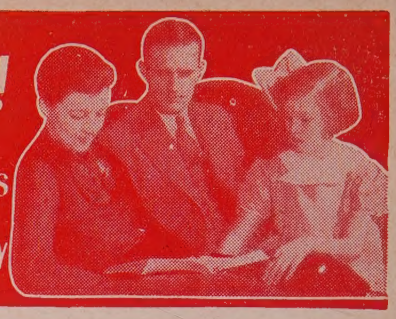

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